

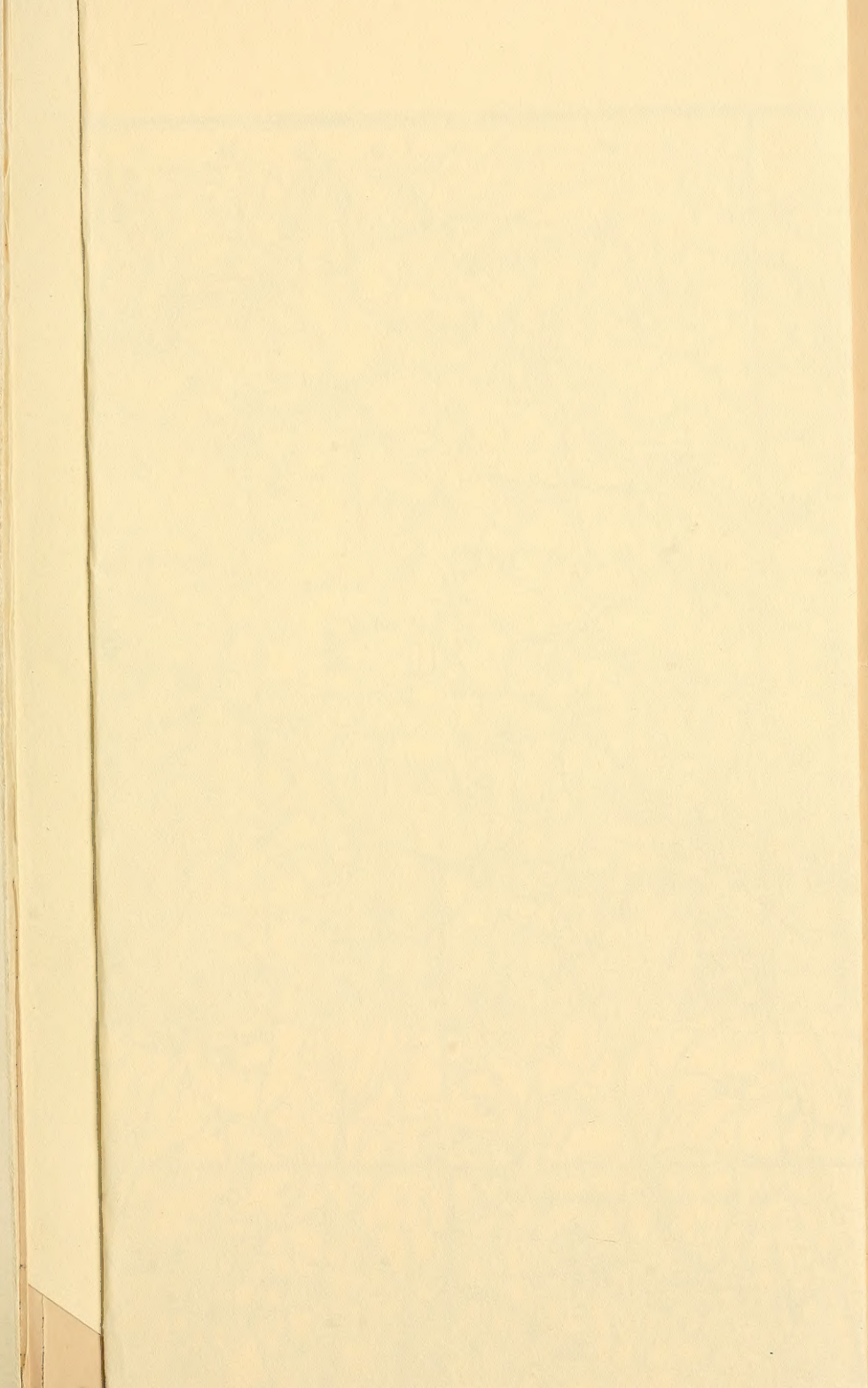


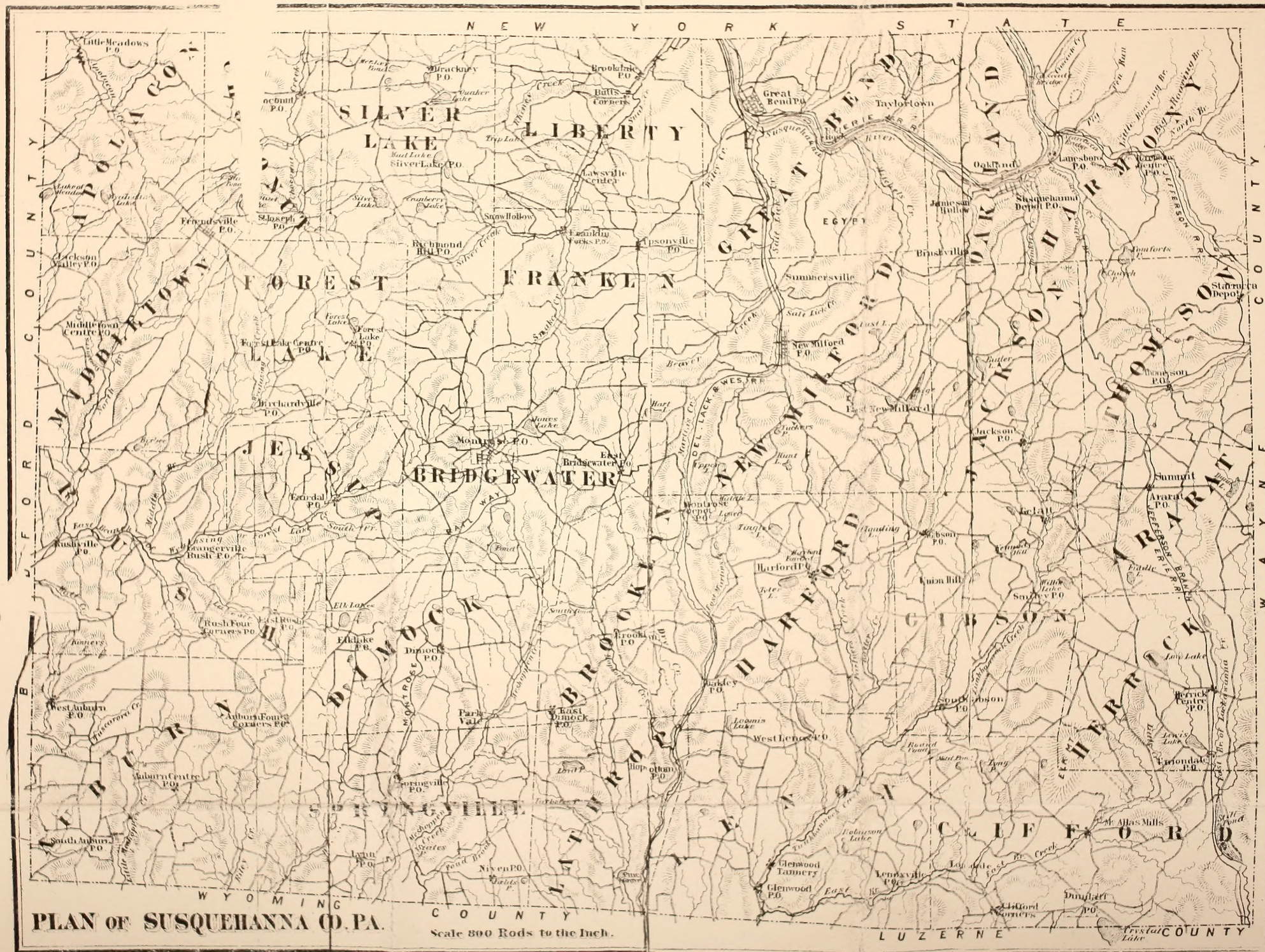
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HISTORY

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OF

SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY,

PENNSYLVANIA.

FROM A PERIOD PRECEDING ITS SETTLEMENT TO RECENT TIMES,

INCLUDING

THE ANNALS AND GEOGRAPHY OF EACH TOWNSHIP.

WITH MAPS AND NUMEROUS ILLUSTRATIONS.

ALSO,

A SKETCH OF WOMAN'S WORK IN THE COUNTY FOR THE UNITED
STATES SANITARY COMMISSION, AND A LIST OF THE
SOLDIERS OF THE NATIONAL ARMY FURNISHED
BY MANY OF THE TOWNSHIPS.

BY

EMILY C. BLACKMAN.



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PHILADELPHIA: 4
CLAXTON, REMSEN & HAFFELFINGER,
624, 626, AND 628 MARKET STREET.
1873.

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PREFACE.

ON the 20th of October, 1868, Miss SARAH M. WALKER of Woodbourne, who had previously urged me to write a history of the Soldiers' Aid Societies of Susquehanna County, sent me a letter renewing the solicitation, and adding: "Or, what is better, write a history *of the county* and include that of the societies."

That she should think to succeed with the greater when she had failed with the less, and that such a proposition should be made to *me*—wholly ignorant as I was of the early interests of the county—caused a hearty laugh, and at the time not a second thought. But, during the following night, it occurred to me that the necessary research for an historical work would be congenial employment for my father in his retirement from medical practice, and that I could arrange for publication such material as he might choose.

Within twenty-four hours afterward, we decided to undertake the task, and made out a list of topics which would require attention. The same, but slightly altered, is given in the volume now before the reader. But, owing to the increasing feebleness of my father, the part assumed by him was very early relinquished.

Those subjects, the investigation of which I had deemed a *man's* province, have received my close attention, and, after repeated examination of files of newspapers and official records both at Wilkes-Barre and Montrose, have been prepared with less aid from individuals than the township annals, in which I was greatly dependent upon the aged and the descendants of pioneers. Owing to the failing memory of some, and the fact that others were but partially informed on matters I wished to understand, their statements were often contradictory. A third version was needed to furnish a key to the first or second, and, when this was not ob-

tainable, the disputed points have been omitted or different versions noted.

If any pioneer has failed of mention, it must be distinctly understood that none of his descendants have given me notice of him. Such material as was furnished me I have had to condense greatly, especially in revision; but the main points have been preserved as far as justice to all would permit. The sketches which were first received, naturally occupy the most space.

In the annals the townships are given in the order of settlement.

Every historical statement made to me I have repeated to the person making it, in order that my apprehension of it might be understood; then, after reducing it to writing, I have read it aloud in his or her presence, and, in addition, sent the manuscript to the township interested, for further criticism. It is believed that accuracy has been obtained as nearly as possible in the thousands of statements given.

It is not only expected, but desired, that the public prints will note any important error; still, should any error of consequence to those only who can readily supply the truth be discovered, private notice of it will be gratifying, since a complete "Errata" given to the public by myself would do justice to all, while a succession of trivial corrections by aggrieved parties might undesignedly cause suspicion of statements which cannot be controverted.

Four years from the day the first prospectus was published, I wrote the last page of the history. The variety of the cares pressing upon me, added to bereavement and frequent ill health, have made the writing of even one page, at times, the labor of weeks. Still, through all, I have been glad I had this work to do.

To place within easy reference official facts and lists of great local value; to meet the long-felt want of many persons by condensing voluminous statements respecting former claims to this section; but especially, to furnish a record of the pioneers and early interests of the county, as also of its people in the late great crisis of the nation—this has been a service, the calling to which might well evoke gratitude. And yet, *to make it a gift* is as impossible as it would be insulting to the people whose deeds or whose ancestors it commemorates.

I have had, probably, little conception of what an *historian* might

deduce from our records; still, much space has been given to the family, the farm, the newspaper, and particularly to schools and churches, with the conviction that these have formed the character and secured the prosperity of the people.

The courtesy and hospitality extended to me during my search for material, in this county, in Luzerne, and elsewhere, are gratefully remembered. The loan of books and of private diaries not only informed the head but kindled the enthusiasm necessary for my labor. For twelve or fourteen days, a horse and wagon were placed at my service. At other times I have had various escort from place to place as the interests of the work demanded; and now its completed pages remind me of scenery enjoyed, of pleasant interviews, and of valued letters, some of which were penned by the tremulous hand of age.

Nearly seventy persons who contributed material, or otherwise aided me, have since deceased. Except for them, some points must have remained unsettled.

Many persons have furnished far more than the record of their own families, in which case I have endeavored to give them credit in due connection, except as they were understood to decline it.

All the portraits are gifts to the work, as are also several drawings and other illustrations, which, with every favor, if space permitted, it would be pleasant to designate.

The kind suggestions of several gentlemen and ladies of best authority in the county were of great benefit to me during the progress of the work. When it was nearly completed, and found too voluminous, HENRY D. BIDDLE, Esq., of Philadelphia, offered his assistance in reducing it within the proper compass; and his labor has been invaluable. He had previously assumed the care of the illustrations (three of which are his own contribution), and of the negotiations with publishers, printers, and binders. Aside from the justice of this particular mention, it is gratifying to associate with such a service to the county, one who for more than twenty years has been a non-resident, but who will be recognized as the son of a former and valued citizen of Montrose.

Publication was greatly facilitated by the liberality of Mrs. HENRY DRINKER, supplemented by that of Mr. Biddle, consequent upon their confidence in the subscribers to the work.

It is regretted that a complete Meteorological Table could not

be given; but, to be satisfactory, it should cover a long period of time, and such a one is not at present obtainable.

Aside from the difficulty of securing scientific lists of the plants and animals of the county, the *common* names are given in the belief that they will prove more acceptable to the general reader.

By the recent schedule of the State liens upon unpatented lands, it is certain that STOKES, one of the townships of Northumberland County in 1783, and which was annulled by Commissioners of Pennsylvania in 1785, extended into this section, and was probably covered by the warrants of 1784. It may have been a part of the "Manor of Stokes," which was laid out, in 1769, east of the Susquehanna River, as the "Manor of Sunbury" was west of it; but inquiry at Harrisburg has failed to ascertain its limits.

Hon. J. W. CHAPMAN says:—

"On many of the tracts referred to, the purchase-money was all paid when the warrants were taken out, though the landholders neglected to take out their patents and pay their fees, which in such cases the State now demands only \$15 for. But in other cases there was more land returned in the survey than the warrant called for, and the amount of the surplus, and interest thereon, is a lien on the land, besides the patent fees, for the collection of which, from the present owners of the land, the Legislature has provided by law."

My obligations are due to Senator FITCH and Representatives TYLER and BEARDSLEE for various efforts in my behalf.

I can congratulate patient subscribers and canvassers that the History of Susquehanna County is at last printed; though *I* may "have had my best days with it," while it was but a dream of usefulness, and not the football of criticism.

EMILY C. BLACKMAN.

INGLESIDE, MONTROSE PA.,
April 17th, 1873.

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E R R A T A .

(Readers are requested to mark the corrections as designated.)

- Page 37, line 2d from the bottom, after "Judge," insert *and*.
 " 38, " 21st, for "Warmer" read *Warner*.
 " 39, " 25th, the name of "*L. F. Fitch*" should be in *italics*.
 " 41, " 30th, for "David D. Warner" read *Davis D. Warner*.
 " 43, " 32d, for "Simon Stephens" read *Simon Stevens*.
 " 45, " 3d, for "Philander Stevens" read *Philander Stephens*.
 " 46, in 2d foot note, for "now" read *since*.
 " 48, line 46th, for "Lew" read *Law*.
 " 64, " 13th, for "Thompson" read *Thomson*.
 " 97, " 16th, after "murdered" insert, *as supposed*.
 " 204, " 7th, for "1739" read 1839.
 " 207, " 25th, for "Kinsbury" read *Kingsbury*.
 " 221, " 5th, after "all he had," read *but one*.
 " 254, " 16th, for "Merryall's" read *Merryall*.
 " 254, " 20th, for "relates" read *writes*.
 " 280, " 3d, for "terrible" read *terribly*.
 " 288, " 4th, for "now" read *late*.
 " 319, " 2d, for "clear" read *cleared*.
 " 335, " 13th, from bottom, after "in consequence," insert *during the Revolution*.
 " 347, " 46th, for "fort" read *forks*.
 " 457, " 29th, omit sentence about Agricultural Society.
 " 460, " 9th, after "petition" read *against slavery*.
 " 499, " 21st, for "Boswick" read *Bostwick*.
 " 538, omission of the present number of members of Liberty Bapt. Church, 73.

The following should have been inserted on page 331.

COST OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

1813. Court-house (containing jail), built by Oliver C. Smith .	\$4,500 00
1818. Fireproof Offices, built by Daniel Lyon	2,562 60
1853. Jail (now engine house), built by Boyd and Smith . .	5,768 34
1855. Removal of Fireproof Building by the commissioners .	130 00
1854-55. New Court-house.	
To architect and drawing contract	\$320 00
Contract price	18,500 00
Furniture, including bell	1,425 70
Total	\$20,245 70
1867-8. New Jail	34,707 07
1870. Repairs on new Court-house	3,025 09

Making a total of nearly seventy-one thousand dollars.



MAP

Illustrating the

AND CHARTER CLAIMS,

HISTORY OF SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY.

CHAPTER I.

CHARTERS OF CONNECTICUT AND PENNSYLVANIA.

THE history of the section of Pennsylvania described as Susquehanna County, extends far back of its official organization. It can best be understood by a somewhat extended reference to a period preceding even the settlement of the county, when its area, with that of Luzerne from which it was taken, was still a portion of old Northumberland. A review of still earlier times is necessary fully to account for the peculiar relation which this territory once sustained to the State of Connecticut.

Grave questions have been practically decided in the status of this small corner of the Commonwealth—questions arising from the transatlantic origin of titles to lands in America—and these first claim our attention.

Explanation of Map of Charter Claims.

1. Massachusetts and Connecticut, with a general review of their charter claims, west.

2. The Connecticut County and Town of Westmoreland, from the Delaware west to the Fort Stanwix line; which sent Representatives to the Assembly at Hartford and New Haven, from 1774 to 1783.

3. The north and south line, one hundred and twenty miles west of the line, ten miles east of the Susquehanna, indicates the western limits of the Connecticut Susquehanna Company's Indian purchase at Albany, in 1754. Nearly to this line ranges of towns five miles square were granted and surveyed; the five most western in M'Kean County, named Lorana, Conde, Turrenne, Newtown, and Addison, are designated.

4. The Western Reserve, or New Connecticut, in Ohio, being one hundred and twenty miles in length, the width of the Connecticut charter claim, confirmed to that State on the final adjustment of western land claims; the United States having accepted the cession from Connecticut of the territory west to the Mississippi. Five hundred thousand acres of this reservation, called "Fire Lands," were granted to New London, Fairfield, Norwalk, and other towns burnt by the enemy. The remainder, being sold, is the source of the noble school fund of that State.

5. About seven millions of acres of the beautiful Genessee country, being, with slight reservations, all the territory in New York, west from a line beginning at the eighty-second mile-stone from the Delaware, on the northern boundary of Pennsylvania, running north to the British possessions—confirmed, by compromise between New York and Massachusetts in 1786, to the latter State—together with 230,400 acres east of that line.—*From Miner's History of Wyoming*

The charters granted by English sovereigns to Connecticut and Pennsylvania, and from which the early troubles of this section of country arose, were based on the assumed right of possession in virtue of the discovery of its shores by Sebastian Cabot, who first sailed from England under commission of Henry VII. May, 1497.

A few years later, voyagers from France, in the service of its sovereign, also made discoveries and took possession in the name of Francis I.; and, thereafter, the French sovereigns claimed a part of the territory which England held as her own.

In 1603, Henry IV. of France having granted to Sieur de Monts the country called Acadia, extending from the 40th to the 46th degree of north latitude, James I. of England became alarmed at the encroachments upon English claims, and, in 1606, divided that portion of North America which lies between the 34th and 45th degrees, into two nearly equal districts; granting the southern part to a company of London merchants—to whom Sir Walter Raleigh had transferred the patent obtained from Queen Elizabeth—and the northern to another corporation called the Plymouth Company. From 38° to 41° the same was granted to both; but, wherever the one made a settlement, the other might not settle within 100 miles.¹

In 1607, the Plymouth Company attempted a settlement at the mouth of the Kennebec, but it was abandoned after a few months.

November, 1620, James I. incorporated the "Grand Council of Plymouth, for planting and governing New England in America;" and granted to the persons constituting it, all that tract of North America lying between the 40th and 48th degrees of north latitude, in its whole extent "from sea to sea," excepting only such land as might already be in possession of another Christian prince. The Council were authorized to convey or assign "such particular portions of said lands to such subjects, adventurers, or planters, as they should think proper."

In 1631, a deed from the Earl of Warwick, then president of the Plymouth Council, conveyed to Lord Say and Seal, Lord Brooke and others, that part of New England afterwards purchased from them by the colony of Connecticut. Now, "though the right of soil had passed from the Crown by the original grant, the powers of government were considered of a nature so sacred, they could only be derived directly from the king;" consequently, in 1662, Charles II. renewed and confirmed the charter to Connecticut, distinctly recognizing it as a part and parcel of the old Plymouth grant. The tract patented to Connecticut extended "from Narragansett River 120 miles on a

¹ U. S. History. Mrs. Willard.

straight line, near the shore towards the southwest, as the coast lies towards Virginia, and within that breadth from the Atlantic Ocean to the South Sea." This measurement would bring the southern limit of Connecticut nearly or quite to the 41st degree of north latitude; and, "that these boundaries included Wyoming, has never, that we are aware of, been controverted."¹

In 1664, the Dutch, who had settled on the Hudson more than fifty years previous, and who claimed the land from the Connecticut River to the Delaware, were conquered by the English, and their territory was given to the Duke of York (afterwards James II.), the king's brother.

The charter to Connecticut had included an exception in favor of the Dutch, their land never having been vested in the Crown previous to this conquest;² and, in 1650, articles of agreement respecting the eastern line of their possessions had been made between them and Connecticut. But, because this line, as agreed upon in 1664, was pronounced "the western bounds of the colony of Connecticut," as it was the eastern of the Duke's patent, the plea was afterwards made by Pennsylvania, that Connecticut had relinquished all claims to lands west of the Delaware; though these were distinctly included within the charter of 1662.

"Now there were no opposite or adverse claims, in 1664, as to the western land. No foreign nation had any pretensions to it. The Duke did not and could not claim it, the Delaware being expressly made his western limit. The king gave no intimation that he was dissatisfied with his own grant of it to Connecticut."¹

The commissioners, therefore, who were appointed to mark the division line between the Duke and Connecticut, had nothing to do or to determine about lands *west* of this patent.

But, as his territory fell again into the hands of the Dutch, and was afterwards restored to the British, a new charter was issued to the Duke of York. This occasioned a fresh dispute between him and Connecticut; but the line between this colony and his possessions was finally adjusted in 1683-85, as it now remains.

In that part of America claimed by England, three requisites were demanded to render title to lands perfect: First, a grant or charter from the king; Secondly, a purchase of the soil from the Indians; Thirdly, possession.¹

That the steps taken on the part of Connecticut respecting the lands within her charter west of the Delaware may be seen in connection with the action of the Government of Pennsylvania, the following dates are given side by side:—

¹ See Miner's History of Wyoming.

² Chapman.

Titles to land west of the Delaware included in the 42° of north latitude, and extending from that river to a north and south line 110 miles west of the Susquehanna River :—

CONNECTICUT.

1662. Charter from Charles II.
1754. Purchase from the Indians.
1762. Settlement at Wyoming.

PENNSYLVANIA.

1681. Charter from Charles II.
1768. Purchase from the Indians.
1769. Settlement at Wyoming.

There is no dispute as to the above facts and figures; and, to the casual reader, nothing more would seem necessary to make clear the validity of the Connecticut claim. To explain how Pennsylvania claimed to prove her right to the land above the Blue Mountains, a few more dates must be given :—

CONNECTICUT CLAIMS.

1662. Pre-emption rights with charter, the grant extending "from the Narragansett River to the South Sea."

1753. Formation of the "Connecticut Susquehanna Company" (and, soon after, of the Connecticut Delaware Company), with a view to purchase the Indian title.

1755. The Assembly of Connecticut "manifest their ready acquiescence" in the purchase made by the Susquehanna Company, and "gave their consent for an application to His Majesty to erect them into a new colony." Surveyors sent out, but obliged to return because the Indians were at war with the French against the English.

1769. Second settlement at Wyoming, by people of Connecticut, which, after varying success, at last became permanent.

1782. The Decree of Trenton had reference solely to *jurisdiction*, and *not to right of soil*, which had passed from the government of Connecticut to the Susquehanna and Delaware Companies.

PENNSYLVANIA CLAIMS.

1681. Charter to William Penn not given until "the eastern bounds of New York had been decided to be the western bounds of Connecticut, which restored the land beyond those settlements westward, to the Crown, and laid them open to a new grant."¹

1736. Deed of the Indians which conveyed to Thomas and Richard Penn, the then proprietaries of Pennsylvania, the right of pre-emption of and in all the lands not before sold by them to the said proprietaries within the limits of their charter. "Said lands bounded on the north by the beginning of the 43° of north latitude," or where the figures 42 are marked on the map.

1779. By an act of Legislature, the right of soil and estate of the late Proprietaries of Pennsylvania was vested in the Commonwealth.

1782. The Decree of Trenton in favor of Pennsylvania.

The student in history is perhaps in nothing more puzzled than in the attempt to reconcile the successive grants of different kings; and, worse, those of the same king. An example of the former is seen by the patent from Charles I. to Lord Baltimore in 1632, which granted him the country from the Potomac to the 40th degree of north latitude; thus, by a mere act of the crown (the rights and privileges of the London

¹ Argument of Mr. Pratt (afterwards Lord Camden), Attorney General to the Crown, in reply to a query of the Pennsylvania proprietaries.

Company having been returned to it), what had long before been given to Virginia, was taken away; as a part of what was granted to Lord Baltimore was subsequently given to William Penn. But of this the latter might well believe himself innocent, since, when he petitioned for his charter, it was referred to the Attorney-General, Sir William Jones, who reported that it did not appear to intrench upon the boundaries of Lord Baltimore's province nor those of the Duke of York, "so that the tract of land desired by Mr. Penn seems to be undisposed of by His Majesty; except the imaginary lines of New England patents, which are bounded westwardly by the main ocean, should give them a real, though impracticable, right to all those vast territories."

Thus, in 1681, Charles II. granted to William Penn a charter of lands having the end of the 42d degree of north latitude for a northern boundary, thus overlapping by one degree the grant to Connecticut made nineteen years before by the same monarch.

An answer to the claim of Pennsylvania under this date (1681) has been already given; but Pennsylvania further argued that, in 1761, one of the Connecticut governors, in reply to an inquiry of the king, stated: "The colony is bounded on the west by New York." This, however, was not the wording of the reply as adopted by the Assembly, which stated that the colony was bounded *by their charter*. The change had been made by the governor, without authority, and resulted in his political decapitation, though it is possible he answered with the idea that the king meant to inquire for the boundary of the occupied portion of the grant.

Mr. Miner, in the 'History of Wyoming,' sums up other objections made by able writers in behalf of the Pennsylvania claims, as follows:—

Objection first. That the Susquehanna Company never had a formal grant from the colony of Connecticut.

Second. That the colony of Connecticut received nothing from the Company as a consideration for those lands.

Third. That the Company made their purchase from the Indians, contrary to the laws of Connecticut.

Fourth. That the king, in 1763, forbade the settlement of territory.

A remark taken from 'Day's Historical Collections' may be in place here.

"The different principles involved in the charter of the Connecticut colony and the province of Pennsylvania, necessarily produced an essential difference in the manner of acquiring the Indian title to the lands. In the colony, the right of pre-emption was vested *in the people*; and the different towns in Connecticut were settled at successive periods, by different bands of adventurers, who separately acquired the Indian title either by purchase or by conquest, and, in many instances, without the aid or the interference

of the Commonwealth. In the province, the pre-emption right was vested in William Penn, who made no grants of lands until the Indian title had been extinguished, and, consequently, the whole title was derived through the proprietaries."

Mr. Miner continues:—

"In reply to the first three objections, it may be said, also, to be a matter between the Susquehanna Company and the Colony or State; the whole proceedings of the Company having again and again received the most full and explicit recognition and confirmation from the Connecticut Government.

"In reply to the fourth, it may be asked, After the king had granted the lands by charter, what authority had he reserved to forbid the settlement?

"The authority to constitute a new *power*, or government, *was* reserved, and could not be communicated by the colony of Connecticut, although the latter might govern the new settlement as a part of itself while still a subject of Great Britain.

"Again, Connecticut asserted that 'the Pennsylvania agents did not set forth a conveyance of the land from the natives; but a deed of pre-emption, or a promise to convey at some future time.'"

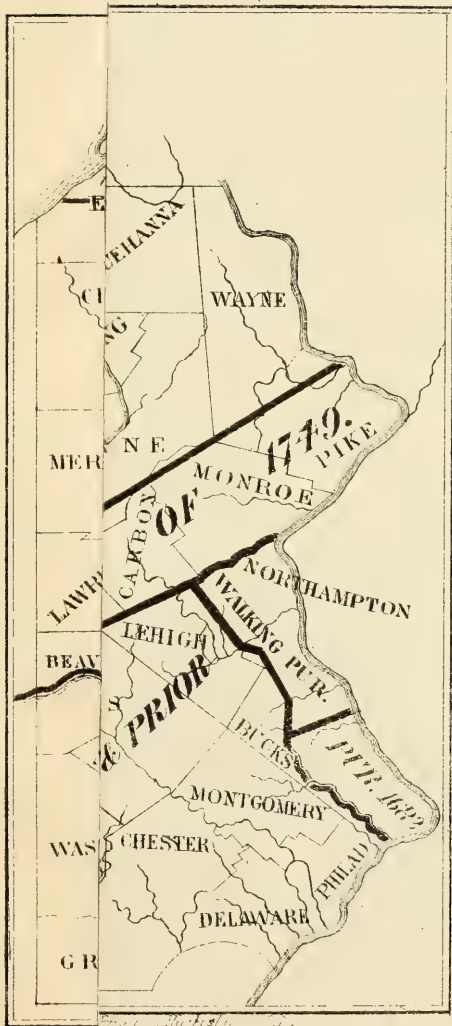
In December, 1773, commissioners on behalf of Connecticut wrote to the Governor of Pennsylvania thus:—

"It were easy to observe that the purchases from the Indians by the proprietaries, and the sales by them made, were they even more ancient than they are, could add no strength to the proprietary title, since the right of pre-emption of the natives was by the royal grant exclusively vested in the colony of Connecticut, and, consequently, those purchases and sales were equally without legal foundation."

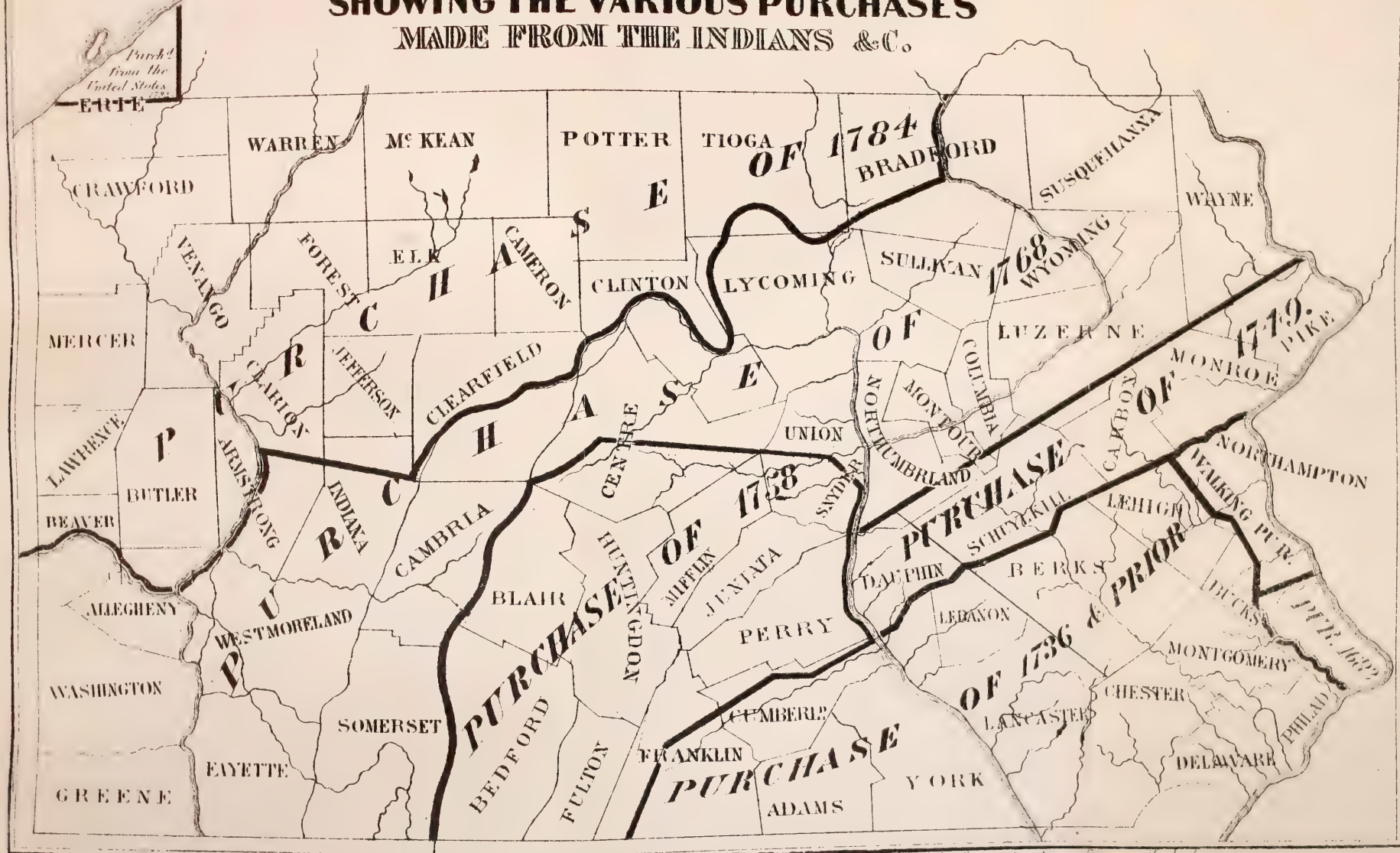
No purchase affecting the dispute between Connecticut and Pennsylvania had been made by the proprietaries prior to the treaty at Fort Stanwix (Rome, N. Y.), in 1768. The Indians had already received two thousand pounds sterling from the Connecticut Susquehanna Company for the lands which they then resold to Pennsylvania.

The Rev. Jacob Johnson, then a missionary to the Oneidas, and afterwards the first minister in Wilkes-Barre, testified, that the Indians agreed to give Gov. Penn a deed, "because Sir William Johnson had told them that their former conveyance to the New England people was unlawful," and "because the commissioners urged that the Connecticut people had done wrong in coming over the line of Pennsylvania to buy land of the Indians."

But we never hear of the return of the two thousand pounds. The sale had been made at Albany, in 1754, in open council, and at a time when delegates from Pennsylvania made efforts to induce the chiefs to sell them the Wyoming lands—one hundred and twenty by seventy miles, the Susquehanna Company purchase—to which they steadily refused to accede. Beloved as William Penn had been by the natives, the proprietaries were by no means favorites with the Six Nations (admitted by all to be the original owners of the land), and,



MAP
SHOWING THE VARIOUS PURCHASES
MADE FROM THE INDIANS &C.



for the reason that they had declined to recognize the Delawares as the subjects of the Six Nations, but had persisted in regarding them as an independent people; and, as such, making treaties and purchasing land of them. (See Miner.) They owed them a grudge, too, on account of the "Walking Purchase," of 1737, with which every student of Pennsylvania history is supposed to be familiar.

But the Commissioners of Pennsylvania, after their return to Philadelphia at that time, reported having held a private treaty, and having purchased lands between the Blue Mountains and the forks of the Susquehanna (Fort Augusta, or Sunbury), which was, of course, below the tract sold to the Connecticut people.

CHAPTER II.

INDIANS.

IN Susquehanna County, except along the river in Harmony, Oakland, and Great Bend, traces of the original proprietors of the soil are not very frequent. The reader is referred to the annals of those townships for details respecting them. In the vicinity of Apolacon and Tuscarora Creeks, numerous arrow-heads have been found, and, in other localities, other implements of the Indians. (See Apolacon, Auburn, Silver Lake, Herrick, etc.) A stone pestle with the head of a squirrel carved on it, now in possession of Rev. H. A. Riley, was found on the farm of the late Judge Lathrop, in Bridgewater.

It is stated, in 'Eaton's Geography of Pennsylvania,' that the Tuscarora Indians, on their emigration northward, made this region their residence for a number of years; it is known they had a village near Lanesboro.

The Delawares, who inhabited the country about Deposit, derived their supply of salt from this county. (See Mineral Resources.)

It appears that the two most noted salt springs in our county had been worked by Indians; and, respecting the one near Silver Creek, a legend is preserved that lends a charm to the spot, now rifled of its pristine wildness and beauty by the hand of modern enterprise. Many of our citizens will recall the scenery described in 1832, by a writer in the 'Montrose Volunteer':—

SALT SPRING LEGEND.

"Previous to the massacre of Wyoming, this whole extent of country was overrun by Indians, along the course of the Susquehanna. A roving band had succeeded in capturing a white man, named Rosbach, after he had killed two or three of them; his wife and children escaped, but he, though wounded and bleeding on the threshold, was doomed to perish at the stake. They were compelled to make a march to elude pursuit from the whites, and at length reached and followed up the course of a stream, to avoid leaving a track; and in their progress passed close beside the mineral spring. What the appearance of the spot was then, it is not difficult to conceive at present, since a clearing of a few acres, an old log-house, and the tottering frame used for boring for salt water, is all that remains to tell that the hand of man has been here. The view in the clearing is not uncommon—a stream of silvery flow and murmur, a high hill and the forest—but, by following up the western creek that here meets one from the north, a wild glen opens unsurpassed among our hills.

"It was night when the Indians and their captive reached this hidden valley, but they passed on, after drinking of the spring, to the greater concealment of the ravine beyond. Conceive them as they enter—the party of a dozen half-naked savages, leading, threatening, and at times supporting the drooping form of the white hunter as he toils through the water tinged with his blood. On either side, the beetling rocks hang a hundred feet overhead, crowned with high columns of the old forest trees. The water, though not abundant, yet produces a series of beautiful cascades, leaping over irregular ledges of rock, and gathering at intervals in basins, clear as the purest crystal. As the leafy dome above closes heavy and compact in the darkness, the party reach the first cascade; they clamber over the rock and find another basin, deeper, darker, and more secluded than the first. Here they pause.

"At a safe distance the hunter's wife has dogged their path, and now watches from the cliff above. In the recess on the right they light their fire. A little apart, the white man is bound to a sapling; the captors are seated; the pipe is passed; they are fed, and the hour of vengeance is nigh. At this moment an owl, startled by the fire, shrieks so discordantly, that even the warriors quiver at the sound. Succeeding this horrid scream, a voice of exquisite clearness chanted, in the native language, a war-song of the Oneidas:—

'The northern eagle scents his prey,
His beak with blood shall drip to-day,
The Oneida's foot is on thy track
His spoils are won ere he turns back.'

"Before the verse was completed, the Indians had extinguished their fire, and at its conclusion they yelled back the war-whoop of defiance, for the Oneidas were in coalition with the whites. A huge rock came thundering down the precipice—then another, and another—vexing the air; and amid the echo and gloom, a hand rested on the shoulder of Rosbach, and in his ear was whispered, 'Robert, do you hear me?' 'Emmeline! my wife! Oh, God!'

"In a moment she cut the withe that bound him, and, as the surprised party had left the bed of the stream, she led him down to where the spring issued from its side. His strength is exhausted, his head sinks upon her bosom, and he is a corpse.

"After concealing his body among the rocks, she resumed her journey toward the river, and at length reached friends, whose joy upon her return was changed to sadness, as she bade them seek the remains of her husband beneath the shadow of the mountain that overhangs the mineral spring."

CHAPTER III.

WESTMORELAND AND THE PENNAMITE WARS.

ALTHOUGH the section now embraced in Susquehanna County was without a settlement until the close of the Pennamite wars of Wyoming, and until the "town and county of Westmoreland" had ceased to exist, our history is still closely connected with them. The events of the period to which they belong are given in detail by Chapman, Miner, and others, from whose works a synopsis is given here, prefaced by the following remark from Dr. Hollister's "History of the Lackawanna Valley":—

"While Wyoming, in its limited signification, now gives name to a valley (about twenty miles in length and three or four in width) unsurpassed for the beauty of its scenery or the romance of its history, it was formerly used in a more enlarged sense to designate all the country purchased of the Indians by the New England men, in 1754, lying in what is now known as Luzerne, Wyoming, Susquehanna, and Wayne Counties." (A large part of Bradford should also be included in this statement.)

The territory of Susquehanna County was included in the Connecticut Delaware Company's purchase, which extended from the Delaware River within the 42d degree of north latitude, west to the line of the Susquehanna Company's purchase; or to within ten miles of the Susquehanna River after it enters the State the second time. In 1755, the Delaware Company began a settlement at Coshetunk.

The greater portion of the purchases made by the two companies was included in the county named by Pennsylvania, Northumberland, then comprising a vast area, from Northampton County (now Wayne and Pike Counties) to the Alleghany River. Luzerne, Mifflin, Lycoming, Centre, Columbia, and Union Counties, in their *original* extent, with the present area of Northumberland, comprised the Northumberland, which was separated from Berks and Bedford in 1772.

The Pennamite wars comprised the struggles of Connecticut settlers to retain possession of the Wyoming lands which they had purchased from the Susquehanna Company; but which were claimed also by the proprietaries of Pennsylvania, who were bent upon securing either the recognition of their own claim, or the ejection of the settlers. Between one and two hundred persons came from Connecticut, August, 1762, and began a settlement in Wyoming, a little above the Indian

village of this name, but the massacre of twenty of them by the Delawares, the following year, and the expulsion of the remainder, discouraged any further effort for nearly seven years.

At no period until 1772, were there more than three hundred Connecticut men on the ground at one time.

It must not be supposed that peaceful measures were not first resorted to by settlers, before pitting themselves against a superior force. In May, 1769, Col. Dyer and Major Elderkin went to Philadelphia and submitted to Benj. Chew, agent for the proprietaries—a proposition to have the matter in dispute between the Susquehanna Company and the proprietaries, referred either to a court of law or to referees to be mutually chosen by the parties, and in either case the decision to be conclusive. But Pennsylvania would in no wise recognize the Connecticut claim. Thirteen years later such a court *was* convened; but, had the first proposition been acted upon, how much bloodshed and misery would have been avoided!

The first Pennamite war extended over a period of three years—from February, 1769, to September, 1771; during which the “Yankees” had been expelled five times, but as often renewed the contest, and with ultimate victory. The close of 1771 found the Susquehanna Company in full possession. In 1772, Wilkes-Barre¹ was laid out near Fort Wyoming, which the settlers had taken under Col. Durkee, who had command in 1769.

In 1773, the government of Connecticut, which, up to this time, had left the Susquehanna and Delaware companies to manage their own affairs, now decided to make its claim to all the lands within the charter, west of the province of New York, and in a legal manner to support the same. Commissioners appointed by the assembly proceeded to Philadelphia “to negotiate a mode of bringing the controversy to an amicable conclusion.” But every proposition offered by them was declined by the Governor and Council of Pennsylvania, who saw no way to prevent a repetition of the troubles in Wyoming, except by the settlers evacuating the lands until a legal decision could be obtained.

In the mean time the people had accepted articles, framed by the Susquehanna Company, at Hartford, Conn., June 2, 1773, for the government of the settlement, and acknowledged them to be of force until the colony of Connecticut should annex

¹ The name Wilkes-Barre, commonly written with but one capital, was given in honor of the celebrated John Wilkes and Col. Barre, both members of the British Parliament, and both of whom took a decided part in favor of America, against the measures of the British ministry.

MAP
OF
ESTMORELAND.
Showing the
CONNECTICUT SURVEYS.

T. Sinclair, lith. Philad^a.



Showing the
CONNECTICUT SURVEYS.

Delaware

Delaware River

Milford●

N^o 2.

By Permission.



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them to one of its counties, or make them a distinct county; or until they should obtain, either from the colony, or from "His Gracious Majesty, King George the Third," a more permanent or established mode of government. "But his majesty soon had weightier matters to decide with his American subjects, which were settled by his acknowledgment of their Independence."

On the report of the Commissioners to the Assembly of Connecticut, after their return from Philadelphia, decisive measures were adopted by the Assembly to bring the settlement on the Susquehanna under their immediate jurisdiction. An act was passed early in January, 1774, erecting all the territory within her charter limits, from the river Delaware to a line fifteen miles west of the Susquehanna, into a town with all the corporate powers of other towns of the colony, to be called *Westmoreland*, attaching it to the county of Litchfield. The town was seventy miles square, and was divided into townships five miles square, though those townships comprised within the Connecticut Delaware purchase were, for the most part, six miles square.

Explanation of Map of Westmoreland—Connecticut Surveys.

The towns marked with a star, thus *, within the Susquehanna Company's purchase, namely, Huntington, Salem, Plymouth, Kingston, Newport, Hanover, Wilkes-Barre, Pittston, Providence, Exeter, Bedford, Northumberland, Putnam or Tunkhannock, Braintrim, Springfield, Claverack, Ulster, are designated in ancient Pennsylvania proceedings as "The seventeen towns occupied or acquired by Connecticut claimants before the Decree of Trenton," and were, with the addition of Athens, confirmed to Connecticut claimants by the Compromising Law of April 4, 1799, and its several supplements.

The Delaware Company's Indian purchases comprised the land west from the Delaware River to the line within ten miles of the Susquehanna.

The Susquehanna Company's Indian purchase at Albany (1754), extended from the line ten miles east of the river, one hundred and twenty miles west, and included the chief parts of M'Kean and Elk counties.

Ranges of towns, west of our map, were granted and surveyed (some as late as 1805) embracing more than a million of acres; the most western on the State line being in M'Kean County. But we have deemed it useful to give place only to those wherein, or in the neighborhood of which, the New England people commenced settlements.

Allensburg, on the Wyalusing, was a grant to Gen. Ethan Allen of Vermont, of several thousand acres, for his expected aid in the grand scheme of treason and rebellion, as it was designated by one party, and of just resistance to unendurable oppression, as it was regarded by the other, in 1787. It is supposed he derived no value from the grant.

The square townships in the Delaware purchase contain 23,000 acres. Those in the Susquehanna purchase, being five miles square, contain 16,000 acres.

Bozrah, on the Lackawaxen, shows the compact part of the "Lackawa" settlement, and was the birthplace of the Hon. George W. Woodward.

The mark in Usher (lot No. 39), three miles west from Mont-Rose, designates the place of the author's bark cabin, where, in the spring of 1799, then a lad

From the date of the act mentioned above until after the Decree at Trenton—nine years—the laws of Connecticut were exercised over the “town” in full force. Accounts of their operation were comprised in what is called the ‘Westmoreland Records,’ now unfortunately not obtainable, having been either lost or destroyed.

In the mean time, November, 1775, a General Congress of Representatives from all the Colonies was assembled at Philadelphia to consult upon measures of mutual defence against the British forces; when, in reply to an application of the Wyoming settlers for protection, Congress had recommended the contending States of Connecticut and Pennsylvania to cease hostilities immediately, and that settlers should behave themselves peaceably in their respective claims, until a legal decision could be rendered in regard to their dispute; but it was expressly stipulated, that nothing in this “recommendation” should be construed into prejudice of the claim of either party. Plunket’s expedition “to restore peace and good order in Wyoming,” then on foot, was not, however, countermanded; but, failing to effect an entrance into the valley, his troops returned down the Susquehanna. This was the last military enterprise ever undertaken by the provincial government of Pennsylvania.

The Revolutionary War was begun and ended without the aid of a single man drawn from the country now constituting Susquehanna County; as not a civilized inhabitant was then within her borders. But that part of Westmoreland in the

Explanation of Map of Westmoreland—Continued.

of nineteen, assisted by Mr. John Chase (the pleasant bar-keeper at Wilson’s Hotel, Harrisburg), he commenced a clearing.

The mark further west in Usher shows the boyhood residence, in 1800, of the Hon. Andrew Beaumont.

The designation of “Barnum,” at Lawsville, in the town of Cunningham, shows the log-cabin tavern (1800) of that prince of hotel keepers, afterwards of Baltimore.

The triangle marked “Hyde,” west of Usher, indicates the head-quarters of Col. Ezekiel Hyde, Yankee leader in the Delaware purchase in 1800. Also the store of Enoch Reynolds, Esq. (in 1799), afterwards at the head of one of the Bureaus in the Treasury Department, at Washington, for many years; and since, till his decease, the residence of Judge Jabez Hyde.

To avoid embarrassing the map by the insertion of too many names, letters are placed in Wilkes-Barre, Exeter, and Pittston, as points of reference, and their explanation is made here. A, Fort Durkee; B, Fort Wyoming; C, Fort Ogden; D, Wintermoot’s Fort; E, Jenkin’s Fort; F, three Pittston Forts; G, Monockacy Island.

After years of search, two maps only of those Connecticut Surveys could be found. Our efforts probably have rescued them from oblivion.¹

¹ From ‘Miner’s History of Wyoming.’ In accordance with a more minute and accurate survey (see Map of Manor) we have altered the relative positions of Montrose and that of individuals.

vicinity of Wilkes-Barre furnished, on the first call, two companies, and these, with individuals afterwards enlisted, amounted to nearly three hundred men given to the Continental service. It was this drain upon the new settlement that left it so unprotected at the time of the massacre by Indians and tories on the memorable 3d of July, 1778. The reader is referred to the graphic descriptions of Chapman, Stone, Miner, Peck, and others, for full accounts of that distressful time. Patriots of the Revolutionary contest have since honored our country by a residence within it, and their remains hallow our soil; while descendants and relatives of those who fell in the Wyoming massacre are still among us.

Fifteen days after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis, a petition was presented to Congress "from the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania, stating a matter in dispute between the said State and the State of Connecticut, respecting sundry lands lying on the east branch of the river Susquehanna, and praying a hearing in the premises, agreeable to the ninth article of the Confederation." Arrangements to this effect were made, and one year later, November 12, 1782, a court composed of five commissioners convened at Trenton, who, after a sitting of forty-one judicial days, in which the parties, represented by their counsel (four gentlemen on behalf of Pennsylvania, and three agents from Connecticut), had proceeded with their pleas, gave their decision in these few and astounding words:—

"We are unanimously of the opinion that Connecticut has no right to the lands in controversy.

"We are also unanimously of opinion, that the jurisdiction and pre-emption of all the territory lying within the charter of Pennsylvania, and now claimed by the State of Connecticut, do of right belong to the State of Pennsylvania."

Thus, with the close of 1782, and the Trenton decree, the jurisdiction of Connecticut ceased. Before that decree, the court had expressly stated that the *right of soil* did not come before them, and thus the settlers were content to be transferred from one State to the jurisdiction of another; but events soon made it apparent that expulsion, or the entire abandonment of their possessions was to be preliminary to any adjustment of existing difficulties. The land had been purchased by Pennsylvania speculators,¹ while it was occupied by those who held it under title from the Susquehanna Company; and the Legislature of Pennsylvania, by its commissioners appointed in 1783,

¹ The landholders who stimulated the Assembly to unjust measures against the Wyoming people, were generally claimants under leases from the proprietaries, or warrants of 1784. The landholders under warrants of 1793 and 1794—the Tilghmans, Drinkers, Francis, etc., are in no respect implicated in the censure.—*Miner*.

to inquire into the circumstances of the Wyoming inhabitants, expressly declared: "It cannot be supposed that Pennsylvania will, nor can she consistent with her constitution, by any *ex-post facto* law, deprive her citizens of any portion of their property legally obtained." This of course, implied the loss to the Connecticut settlers of all they had paid to the Susquehanna Company, in favor of prior "citizens" of Pennsylvania who had "legally obtained" possession of the land. This was the origin of the second Pennamite war, which fortunately extended over only one year—1784—and resulted in the restoration to the "Yankees" of the lands from which they had been cruelly driven during the spring of that year.

The years 1785 and 1786 were marked by renewed activity among the holders of lands under the Connecticut title, Col. John Franklin being the leading spirit among them; while, on the other side, Col. Timothy Pickering had been appointed by Pennsylvania to introduce her laws and support her claims in Wyoming. "Col. P. had executed with fidelity and approbation, the office of Quartermaster-General of the army. A native of Massachusetts, after the peace he had settled at Philadelphia." [See Franklin and Harmony.] "But the first healing measure adopted by the State of Pennsylvania was the erection of the county of Luzerne from Northumberland in 1786, "to give the people an efficient representation in the Council and Assembly, so that their voice might be heard, their interests explained, and their influence fairly appreciated." Col. P. was appointed Prothonotary, Clerk of the Peace, Clerk of the Orphans' Court, Register and Recorder, for the county.

"A crisis was depending of the highest moment, pregnant with civil war and revolution. A constitution for a new State was actually drawn up, the purpose being to wrest Wyoming and the old county of Westmoreland from the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania, and establish a new and independent government, as Vermont was established in despite of New York." Col. Franklin would not take the oath of fidelity to Pennsylvania, nor accept (at that time) a post of official importance to which he had been chosen with a view to conciliate the one whose opposition was the most bitter. Even the famous Gen. Ethan Allen, from Vermont, appears upon the scene as one pledged to furnish men and means towards the establishment of the new State; but the arrest of Franklin on a charge of high treason, and his subsequent long confinement in prison, put a quietus to the project.

Luzerne County, in 1786, included all the New England emigrants, except those in the ancient Lackawack settlement, and a few on the Delaware, being one hundred and twenty miles north and south, or from the mouth of the Nescopee to





miles north and south, or from the mouth of the Nescopoc to

the north line of the State, on which its extent was from the sixth mile-stone to a point fifteen miles west of the Susquehanna River where it enters the State a second time. The relative position of what is now Susquehanna County, is given on the accompanying map of Old Luzerne; for more than a quarter of a century all of her settlers were amenable to the courts held at Wilkes-Barre. What privation and inconvenience this occasioned the remote inhabitants of Willingboro' (Great Bend) and Nine Partners (Harford), one can only imagine when taking into consideration the want of roads, and the peril of traveling through the then literally *howling* wilderness. Doubtless, the difficulty of executing justice often permitted lawlessness of certain kinds, when either to enter a complaint or serve a writ involved a formidable outlay of time and courage in overcoming distance, as well as physical obstacles. A story is told of the late Judge Hyde, who, when sheriff of Luzerne County, came on horseback from Wilkes-Barre to Silver Lake, more than fifty miles, to serve a jury notice, and received for his fee the sum of twenty-five cents.

It was at the suggestion of Col. Pickering that a large number of the people united in a petition, setting forth that seventeen townships, of five miles square, had been located by the Connecticut settlers before the Trenton decree, and the lots averaging 300 acres had been set off specifically to settlers and proprietors; and praying that these might be confirmed: whereupon the Assembly, on the 28th of March, 1787, passed the Confirming Law—an act “for ascertaining and confirming to certain persons called Connecticut claimants, the lands by them claimed within the county of Luzerne,” etc. This allowed to Pennsylvania claimants an equivalent, at their option, in the old or new State purchases. The act was suspended by an act of March 29, 1788, and finally condemned and repealed by an act of 1st April, 1790, being called “unconstitutional,” as inflicting a wrong upon Pennsylvania claimants.

But, since it was only just that the persons complying with the provisions of the act of March 28, 1787, while the law was in existence, should be entitled to the benefit of the same; it was enacted, March 9, 1796, that the board of property ascertain from the documents placed in the Secretary's office what sums ought to be allowed to the respective owners, and that “the Receiver-general shall thereupon deliver a certificate of such sum or sums to the respective owners and enter a credit in his books for the same, which may be transferred to any person, and passed as credit.” Claimants compensated under this act, were obliged to release to the commonwealth their respective claims to the lands in question, before receiving *certifi-*

ates to the foregoing effect; the latter were sometimes styled "Wyoming credits."

In 1795, the Intrusion Law warned off all settlers not applying for land under a Pennsylvania title.

April 4, 1799, an act for offering compensation to the *Pennsylvania* claimants of certain lands within the seventeen townships of Luzerne, often spoken of as the "certified" townships, was passed, and is known as the Compromising Law.

April 1, 1805, redemption of certificates under act of March 9, 1796, was commenced.

At the period when the Confirming Law was passed, the State was proprietor of a large portion of the lands so confirmed to the settler, and the result has been that with one exception, the government of Pennsylvania has refused to recognize any right in warrant holders, whose titles originated in the seventeen townships *after the Confirming Law*. But settlers within the limits of what is now Susquehanna County, could not come within the provisions of that law, since they were outside of the seventeen townships to which it was limited; how then could they expect any title to hold good, except one derived from the State of Pennsylvania? And all the more was this expectation foolish, after the passage of the Intrusion and the Compromising Laws. "By the latter law all Pennsylvania claims to lands in the seventeen townships, which originated *before* the date of the Confirming Law, were to be paid for by the State, and Connecticut claimants were to pay for lands of the first class \$2 00 per acre, of the second, \$1 20; of the third, fifty cents: of the fourth, eight and a half cents. And those claims under Connecticut within townships on which settlement had been made *after* the Trenton Decree, then numerous and rapidly increasing, threatening wide and extended mischief, forthwith fell before this act of mingled policy and justice." But the "Yankees" were hard to be convinced. With them, *might did not make right*; and the fact that the United States (and Pennsylvania by her vote) accepted from Connecticut, about the year 1800, a formal release of all claim to jurisdiction or soil, west of the eastern limits of New York, excepting to that of the Western Reserve; and granted letters patent for that tract, served but to corroborate her claim. By this act, Congress recognized the right of Connecticut west of New York, and the Hon. Charles Miner pertinently asks: "How could she have a right west of Pennsylvania, and not *through* Pennsylvania, when her charter was nineteen years the oldest?"

CHAPTER IV.

THE INTRUSION LAW.

AN act of Assembly, passed April 11, 1795, was designed "to prevent intrusions on lands within the counties of Northampton, Northumberland, and Luzerne." The first section reads:—

"If any person shall, after the passing of this act, take possession of, enter, intrude, or settle on any lands" within the limits of the counties aforesaid, "by virtue or under color of any conveyance of half share right, or any other pretended title, not derived from the authority of this commonwealth, or of the late proprietaries of Pennsylvania, before the Revolution, such persons upon being duly convicted thereof, upon indictment in any Court of Oyer and Terminer, or Court of General Quarter Sessions, to be held in the proper county, shall forfeit and pay the sum of two hundred dollars, one half to the use of the county, and the other half to the use of the informer; and shall also be subject to such imprisonment, not exceeding twelve months, as the court, before whom such conviction is had, may, in their discretion, direct."

The second section of this act provided punishment for combinations to convey, possess, and settle under pretended titles—payment of "not less than five hundred, nor more than one thousand dollars," and "imprisonment at hard labor not exceeding eighteen months."

This act went no further, verbally, than to make intrusions punishable—prohibition being only implied.

An act supplementary to this, passed February 16, 1801, authorized the governor (sect. xi.) to issue his proclamation,

"*Forbidding* all future intrusions, and enjoining and requiring all persons who have intruded contrary to the provisions of the act to which this act is supplementary, to withdraw peaceably from the lands whereon such intrusions have been made; and enjoining or requiring all officers of government, and all good citizens of the commonwealth, to prevent, or prosecute by all legal means, such intrusions and intruders," etc.

April 6, 1802, an act of Assembly provided that "no conveyance of land within the counties of Luzerne, Lycoming, and Wayne, shall pass any estate where the title is not derived from this State or the proprietaries before the 4th of July, 1776." It imposed a penalty upon any judge or justice for receiving proof of, or recorder for recording, a deed of a different description. "No person interested in the Connecticut title to act as judge or juror, in any cause where said title may come in question," etc. An exception was made in favor of the inhabitants of *the seventeen townships*, only as far as related to judges,

sheriffs, or jurors. This law was required to be made known by a proclamation from the governor, and took effect May 1, 1802.

From that date, whatever "right" persons may have had under titles derived from Connecticut, it was sheer folly to defend. But all the overtures of the State were still scorned by many, as we learn from the Luzerne Federalist of January, 1803, which stated:—

"In the district of Rindaw (Rush) one hundred and fifty persons not only avowedly, but firmly and positively, believe in the Connecticut title and no other. In Willingboro (Great Bend) perhaps thirty. But in all the districts nearer two thousand than one thousand could be found who would risk their all in defence of their Connecticut title, if Pennsylvania ever attempts to drive them off by force of arms."

Newspaper controversy upon the subject was particularly rife that year, but extended over a much longer period.

The following letters of Henry Drinker, of Philadelphia, a large holder of lands in this section, under title derived from the State of Pennsylvania, reveal the intrusion on his tracts.

"PHILADELPHIA, 5 mo. 22d, 1801.

"Respected Friend,

ABRAM HORNE, Esq.

"There are in the hands of Timothy Pickering, Esq., two maps, one of them of a considerable body of lands situate on the waters of Tunkhannock Creek and extending to the head waters of Salt Lick Creek; the other represents lands bounding on the State line between this State and New York, and to the eastward of the Susquehanna—these maps Col. Pickering has promised to deliver thee when called for.

"I now deliver herewith a map of a large body of lands, principally on and near the waters of Meshoppen Creek, and including branches of Wyalusing, Tuscarora, and Tunkhannock.

"The townships laid out by the companies (Connecticut) are distinguished by dotted lines, which may be of some use to thee in traversing that country. I have also obtained the names of about 50 settlers from Connecticut, etc., and the parts they are settled on: tho' there may be some variation as to the particular tracts they occupy, yet I presume the following statement may be nearly right, viz:—

TOWN OF USHER.	No.		No.
Ebenezer Whipple,	157,	Dan Metcalf,	242
Abner Griffith,	156,	AUBURN.	
Solomon Griffith,	156, 107	Lloyd Goodsell,	
Holden Sweet,	156	Myron Kasson,	
James Carl (Carroll?),	158	Charles Morey,	
Samuel Maine,	107, 108	Ezekiel Morey,	
Mecom Maine,	107, 108	John Passmore,	
Ezekiel Maine,	107, 108	John Robinson,	
Nathan Tupper,	204		
William Lathrop,	208	DANDOLOE.	
Erastus Bingham,	204, 205	Eldad Brewster,	53
Eli Billings,	205, 206	Elias West,	52, 54
Ezekiel Hyde (an im-		— Crocker,	50, 51
provement),	207	Joseph Chapman,	46

	No.		No.
MANOR.		Martin Myers	
Jeremiah Mecom,	63, 105	Capt. Joseph Chapman	
Otis Robinson,	ditto.	Ezekiel Morey	
David Harris,	66,		
Ozem Cook,	67, 68	NEW MILFORD.¹	
Henry Cook,	67, 68	John Hussey	214, 264
Amos Perry,	67, 68	Daniel Kinney, Jr.	215
George Morey,	100, 101	Lyman Kinney	234
Ichabod Halsey,	104.		
Nehemiah Maine,	104,	VICTORY.	
Otis Robinson,	104,	— Spencer, agent for	
Ezekiel Maine, Jr.,	106, 107	the claimant.	
	107, 108	— Avery	
FOSTER.		GORE.	
David Dowd, southerly		Cyril Peck,	
part of Manor.		Josiah Bass, between the	
Andrew Lisk, southerly		Gore and Auburn.	
part of Manor.			
CHEBUR.		RINDAW.	
Thomas Parke, } perhaps in Bid-		Capt. Joab Pickett,	240, 242
Harry Parke, } well.		Daniel Roswell, deaf and	
		dumb,	240, 242.

"There is one Isaac Brunson settled in the forks of Wyalusing Creek, just to the westward and adjoining my bounds of lot No. 239. He is on a tract survey'd to Thomas Dundas. This man has always conducted well and deserves to be kindly treated; being Town Clerk he can give all the names of settlers in New Milford.

* * * * *

"Thy Friend,

HENRY DRINKER."

—

Extract from a letter of the same to Ebenezer Bowman, of Wilkes-Barre; dated

"PHILADELPHIA, 3 mo. 24, 1802.

"Esteemed Friend,

"Is it not probable, while impressions are fresh and warm on the minds of the Connecticut leaders, speculators, &c., and their hopes and prospects in a low, desponding state, and before they have time to devise and contrive further means of deluding the people, and prolonging the controversy, there may be openings for bringing on agreements and contracts on such terms as the Pennsylvania landholders might not dissent from?

"I am concerned in an extensive tract, and in the general of an excellent quality, situate principally on the waters of Meshoppen Creek, and including parts of Wyalusing, Tuscarora, and Tunkhannock Creeks, in the whole near 100,000 acres, which, on receiving part payment and undoubted good security for the remainder, I would sell together at two dollars pr. acre, though I believe it cheap at double that price. There are parts, however, picked pieces, which have been intruded on, that are of very superior value, and if separately sold, must be at a very different price. I care nought about relinquishments, all that I require is pay and undoubted security, when a clear title will be made under grants from this State."

¹ The reader will be careful to distinguish this from the Pennsylvania township of the same name. The Kinneys were just below the south line of Rush.

From the same to the same.

"PHILADELPHIA, 7 mo. 7, 1802.

"Esteemed Friend :

"Our friend E. Tilghman drew up the form of the depositions sent thee, and this mode of proceeding against the intruders was recommended by him, and also by Gov. McKean; it is grounded on the Intrusion Laws, and has no reference to the cutting of timber, etc. It is expected the defendants must, in conformity to the laws, be subject to confinement, or give immediate security. Whether these suits are to be grounded on the act passed the 16th February, 1801, thou wilt judge. Will it not be necessary to ascertain when Spencer¹ and the others intruded and commenced their settlements? If it was before passing the Intrusion Law in 1795, will not this circumstance be an objection to the proposed prosecution?"

From the same to the same.

"PHILADELPHIA, 7 mo. 29, 1802.

"Esteemed Friend :

"I have this day received thy letter of the 25th inst., by which it appears that doubts continue on thy mind as to the propriety of commencing the suits I had proposed. Upon the whole, as my friend E. Tilghman is absent, and likely to continue so for a considerable time, on a journey into New England, and as it was by his advice that I move in this matter, it may, under every consideration, be prudent to let your next court go over without proceeding therein, intending to take further advice on the subject."

From the same to the same.

"PHILADELPHIA, 1 mo. 10, 1803.

"A letter was received by our committee of landholders, about three weeks since, dated Athens, 6th December, 1802, and signed by John Franklin and Samuel Avery, which letter thou hast seen. An answer was lately sent to Franklin at Lancaster, in substance as follows : After owning receipt of their aforesaid letter, and reciting the words of it, that they are a committee appointed at a meeting of the Susquehanna Connecticut Company, to write to, and treat with our committee for the purpose of promoting a just and reasonable settlement, or compromise of the long subsisting dispute, and requesting we would appoint a time and place to meet them on the occasion, our answer goes on to say, we cannot agree to meet them, or any description of persons styling themselves a committee claiming lands under the Susquehanna Connecticut Company; and then refers them to the printed letter written to thee, dated in the 5th mo., 1801, which, if they rightly prize their own peace and happiness, they will duly attend to.

"I have a letter from a certain Elisha Tracy, dated Norwich, Connecticut, December 19, 1802; he therein says, he owns lands on Wyalusing, Wappasinic, and at the Nine Partners, under the Connecticut Delaware Company, and offers to buy of me, or proposes I should buy of him at a low price, or transfer to him part of my lands, on his covering the remainder with his title, and says, unless the dispute is settled in some way like this, it never will be settled during our lives; he goes further and says, more people are going from there this year on the disputed lands than ever did before.

"As yet, no intimation has come to us from the Connecticut speculators and leaders, showing an intention in them to give up the companies; what effect the late decisions of our judges may have on them remains to be known; a quiet and peaceable adjustment of this matter without a resort to force, particularly a military force, is much desired by thy assured friend,

HENRY DRINKER."

¹ Jeremiah Spencer, who bought land under Connecticut title, and settled in Springville.

From the same to the same.

"PHILADELPHIA, 9 mo. 30, 1806.

"It was pleasing to hear of the progress thou had made, and of the prospect of additional sales on the waters of Wyalusing. . . .

"A company who have lately viewed about six thousand acres of land owned by Colonel Hodgdon, near Kirby and Law's settlement, have offered him two and one-half dollars per acre, which he has agreed to accept, one-fourth in cash, and remainder on interest."

The animosity so long existing between the two parties now culminated into open warfare. In 1803 occurred the famous assault on Mr. Bartlet Hinds, the first settler in what is now Montrose, who had become on conviction an advocate of the Pennsylvania claim, and was charged with bringing against Connecticut settlers indictments for intrusion. This he denied. (He had himself been indicted for the same in 1801, along with Ezekiel Hyde, John Robinson, Charles Geer, Josiah Grant, Elisha Lewis, Amolo Balch, Ichabod Halsey, John Reynolds, Jeremiah Meachem, Otis Robinson, Elias West, and others.) His enemies believed him leagued with the Pennsylvania landholders, and said (though without reason) that he received five acres from them, for every settler he induced to come in under their title, and he had succeeded in bringing in about one hundred. But the fact that he had acknowledged the Pennsylvania right, by repaying for his own land, was exerting an influence that embittered against him all who denied that claim.

They purchased a note of Mr. Hinds, commenced a suit upon it, took him fourteen miles from home for trial before D. Ross, Esq., at a late hour in the day, making it necessary for him to remain over night. In the evening, the house in which he lodged was surrounded by a mob, who forcibly entered and took him from the house; and, tying him to a horse's tail, dragged him through the Wyalusing Creek, near its forks. When nearly exhausted, Mr. Hinds made the Masonic sign, which induced one of the fraternity to give him assistance, but, when he had reached the shore, his assailants formed a ring, and, seizing his hands, drew him around his burning effigy, and occasionally pushed him into the flames.¹ For this deed, eighteen persons were indicted for riot and assault, and taken to Wilkes-Barre, as the parties belonged in what was then Luzerne County. On the trial, the defendants withdrew the plea of "not guilty," and entered "guilty." Five were imprisoned for

¹ Cyrus Whipple, son of Ebenezer Whipple, and now living in Iowa, says: "Mr. Hinds bore it like a martyr; on his return home, he called at my father's, and he looked as if he had seen hard times. There was a constable among the mob, who would cry out at the top of his voice, 'I command the peace!' then, in a low whisper, would say: 'Rush on, boys, rush on!'"

the space of three months without bail, one of whom had to pay \$10, and four of them, \$20 each; and also to pay the costs of prosecution and stand committed until the whole was paid. Nine were to pay a fine of \$30 each, and the court further ordered "that they enter into recognizances each in the sum of \$500, with one good freeholder in like sum, conditioned for their good behavior for the space of one year; and that they severally pay the costs of prosecution, and stand committed till the whole sentence be complied with."

One would suppose this had been enough to deter others from further assaults upon the person of B. Hinds, on account of his loyalty to Pennsylvania; but, as late as 1808, another case occurred, in which he again came off conqueror.

In 1804, Gov. McKean ordered out two brigades of militia, to enforce the laws against Connecticut claimants.

In 1805, the Pennsylvania landholders invited such claimants to give descriptions of their lands, and offered easy terms of purchase in return; but the public journals warned settlers against giving information which might lead to their ejection. The old settlers in the seventeen townships, occupied before the Decree at Trenton, endeavored to dissuade new-comers from resistance to Pennsylvania claims, saying, "The State of Connecticut has abandoned you," which of course was the fact, so far as jurisdiction was concerned, since 1782. Congress refused to interfere, though its action in regard to acknowledging the claim of Connecticut to lands west of Pennsylvania, had only confirmed whatever claim she had entered to territory *within* it; since, in law, "all titles from the same source are equally valid."

In May, 1806, the trustees appointed by the association of settlers under Connecticut claims met¹ and proposed to settle the controversy by an amicable compromise, "on such terms as settlers can meet with safety; as it respects payments, and the regularity of title;" and in their appeals to them, stated: "An agent (Tench Coxe) is appointed on the part of our opponents," and so discouraged individual arrangements, advising that the business be effected with him through the agents for the settlers. These were John Franklin, at Athens, Major Nath'l Allen, at Burlington, and Captain (afterwards Colonel) Thomas Parke, of Rush. Three years previous, the committee of Pennsylvania landholders had refused to treat with persons styling themselves "President and Board of Directors appointed at a meeting of the proprietors and claimants of lands under a title derived from the Connecticut Susquehanna Company;"

¹ Of this meeting Isaac Brownson was chairman, and Joseph Kingsbury clerk.

but a less offensive phraseology seems to have conduced to a final adjustment of affairs.

Anecdotes are told to this day of the perils and adventures within our own vicinity which those encountered who came still later to take possession in the name or under the sanction of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania. "A surveyor in the employment of Dr. R. H. Rose, while tracing a boundary line through the woods, placed his hand high on a tree to mark where the ax-man, who followed, should strike out a chip as an evidence of the line that had been run. The surveyor had scarcely taken his hand from the tree, when the sharp crack of a rifle ran through the forest, and the spot where the hand had been laid was 'chipped' by a leaden bullet, a hint that sufficed to stay all proceedings for the rest of that day. On one occasion, to such extremities had matters proceeded, the 'Yankees' had resolved to take the life of Dr. R., and information was brought to him that a meeting would be held at a particular place on a certain day named, to organize their measures. He determined at once to face the danger; and, riding boldly to a small clearing, which had been described to him as the scene of the intended meeting, he found the plotters in actual consultation on the subject. The very boldness of the step procured him a hearing; he rehearsed to them the history of the claims of the two States, and of the grounds of the final settlement, reminded them it was governmental, not individual action; that he had bought of the legal claimant; that he felt sorry for them, and wished to lighten their load in every possible way, and repeated his offers, which he said were final. He told them he was aware of their designs, but added, 'Why shoot my surveyors? It is bright moonlight, and I shall ride slowly to my camp by such a track—but let whoever follows take a sure aim; he will not fire twice!' Soon one of the leaders advanced towards him, and renewed the conversation respecting the disputes that existed; the matter was freely discussed; a better temper sprang up, and from that moment may be dated the negotiations that produced the happy termination to which all the troubles arising from the conflicting claims of the two States were subsequently brought."

CHAPTER V.

COUNTY ORGANIZATION.

SUSQUEHANNA County was set off from Luzerne by an act of Legislature, passed February 21, 1810; but it was not fully

Fig. 1.



organized, with county officers elected, until the fall of 1812. The first section of the same act set off from Luzerne, with a portion of Lycoming, another county, then named Ontario, now Bradford; and the east line of Ontario formed the west line of Susquehanna County,

'From the fortieth mile-stone standing on the north line of the State, to a point due east of the head of Wyalusing Falls, in the Susquehanna.' From thence, the southern line was directed to run "due east to the western line of Wayne County;

thence northerly along the said western line of Wayne County to the afore-said north line of the State (at the sixth mile-stone counting from the Delaware River westward), and thence along the said State line to the fortieth mile-stone, the place of beginning."

Different opinions exist respecting the origin of the present southern line of the county; of these, one seemingly authoritative is, that, owing to some misunderstanding between the surveyors as to the allowance to be made for the magnetic variation in the north line of the State, the party which set out to run the line from the point indicated in the act, found themselves considerably north of the line run by the party starting from the western line of Wayne County. This resulted in a compromise, which has since given rise to various difficulties, especially in determining the northern line of Wyoming County. By reference to the county map, it will be seen that a line drawn due east from the southwest corner of our county would cut off Dundaff and the land adjacent for more than a mile north and south.

From the report made by B. T. Case, Esq., to the commissioners of Susquehanna County, in 1827, we learn that the whole length of the county on the south line is thirty-three miles and one hundred and seventeen perches, and the breadth on the east line is twenty-three miles and three hundred and fourteen perches. (Magnetic variation $2^{\circ} 30''$ west. See APPENDIX.)

The county derives its name from the fact that the Susquehanna River first enters the State of Pennsylvania within its limits. We are happy in having the sweet-sounding Indian name retained for our frequent local use. "Hanna" signifies *a stream of water*, and "Susque" is generally believed to mean *crooked*, though one writer gives its signification as *muddy*, for which there is no justification in point of fact; and the Indians gave no arbitrary names. A more winding, crooked stream than the Susquehanna, as to general course, is not to be found in the Northern States; in our own county it varies directly three times. In the grand sweep of the river, from Lanesboro to Pittston, it completely drains our county, every stream within our borders eventually falling into it. When the north line of the State was determined, in 1786, it was found to cross twelve streams running south, and nine running north between the sixth and fortieth mile-stones from the Delaware River—the limits of the north line of Susquehanna County. Prominent among these were the "Appelacunck," "Chucknut," and "Snake Creeks." (See 'Pennsylvania Archives,' No. 29.)

Running north into the Susquehanna, but not crossing the State line, there are, besides minor streams, Wylie Creek, the Salt Lick, Mitchell's, Drinker's, the Canawacta, and Starucca; though the latter and Cascade Creek may rather be said to enter the river from the east.

The Lackawanna (*Leckaw*, forks, and *Hanna*, stream), and Tunkhannock (*Tonk* two, and *Hanna*, stream), including Bowman's Creek, with their tributaries, have their sources in the eastern townships, and run across the south line of the county; the sources of Martin's and Horton's Creeks are in the central townships, and, with the Meshoppen (*Mawshapi* cord, or *Reed* stream), in its four streams, one of which rises near Montrose; they cross the south line to reach the river, while the Tuscarora and Wyalusing (*Wighalusui*, plenty of meat) find it after crossing the county line on the west.

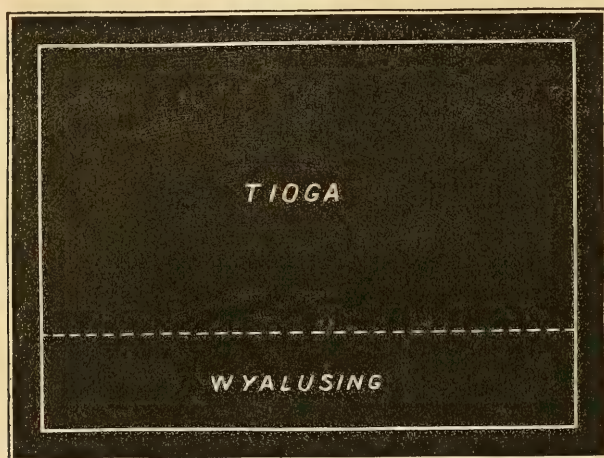
But, without entering further, at present, upon the topographical features of the county, the reader's attention is invited to the following diagrams illustrating its official divisions at different periods. And, first, in the year 1790, that portion of Luzerne, since constituting the area of Susquehanna County, was included within two townships, Tioga¹ and Wyalusing. By order of the justices of Luzerne, Tioga was bounded on the north by the northern line of the State, and east and west

¹ Tioga township, in old Northumberland, from which Luzerne (including Susquehanna and Bradford Counties) was taken, extended from the present western line of Wayne County to Phoutz's or Big Meadows, in Tioga County, and was eighteen miles in depth from the State line.

by the lines of that county, and on the south by an east and west line which should strike the standing stone.

Wyalusing was "bounded on the north by Tioga township, on the east and west by lines of the county, and on the south by an east and west line passing through the mouth of the Meshopping Creek." Tunkhannock, the next township below,

Fig. 2.



also extended across Luzerne County, and its southern limit was an east and west line through Buttermilk Falls.

In March, 1791, the court of Luzerne ordered the erection of the township of Willingborough, from the northeast corner of Tioga, but its boundaries were not defined until April, 1793. (See Great Bend.)

August, 1795, Nicholson, so named from John Nicholson, Comptroller of the State, was erected from parts of Tioga and Wyalusing, with the following boundaries:—

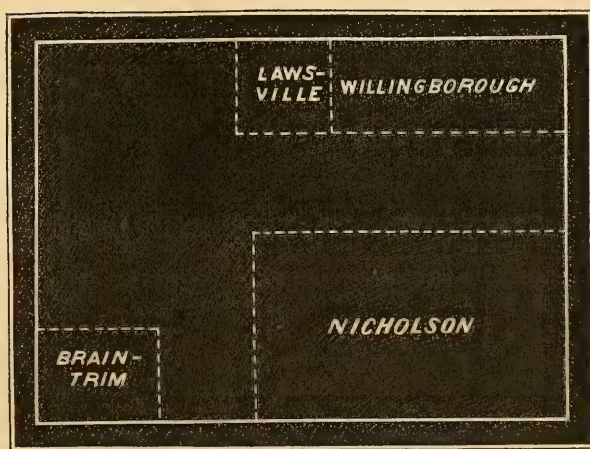
"Beginning at the place where the north line of the township of Tunkhannock crosses a small creek west of Martin's Creek; running thence due north thirteen miles; thence east to the east line of the county; thence south on the county line to the place where it shall intersect the north line of Tunkhannock township; thence west on said line to place of beginning."

This proves that Nicholson was never "twenty miles square," as some have supposed.

In January, 1797, the court approved, but not "finally" until January, 1798, the petition of Ephraim Kirby, and others, for the erection of the township of Lawsville. (See Franklin.)

In 1799, Braintrim was set off from Wyalusing and Tunkhannock; the portion taken from the former by Susquehanna County, retains nearly its original dimensions in the present town of Auburn. (See Fig 3.)

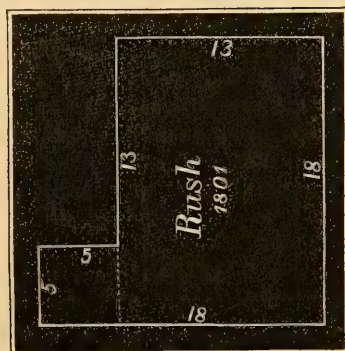
Fig. 3. (A.D. 1799.)



TOWNSHIPS ERECTED FROM TIOGA AND WYALUSING.

January, 1801, Ezekiel Hyde, Justus Gaylord, and M. Miner York were appointed commissioners to set off the township of Rush, and in November of the same year, their report was accepted. The township was eighteen miles north and south by thirteen miles east and west, except that on the south line it extended five miles further, this extension being five miles square. The whole comprised 172,660 acres. The following diagram represents the boundaries of Rush in 1801. The dotted line marks the division made by the erection of Susquehanna County.

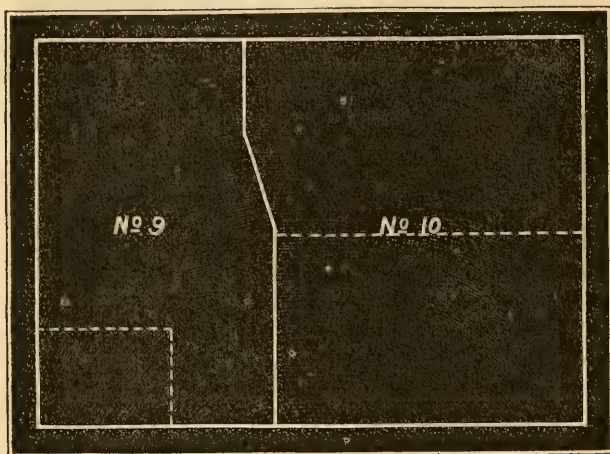
Fig. 4.



At this time there were but twelve election districts in Luzerne County: Willingborough, Lawsville, and Nicholson, together

constituting the tenth : and Rush, or Rindaw, the ninth. Rindaw as a Pennsylvania election district must be carefully distinguished from the Connecticut township of that name at the forks of the Wyalusing; the former included the latter, but its name appears to have been only temporarily adopted.

Fig. 5. (A.D. 1801.)



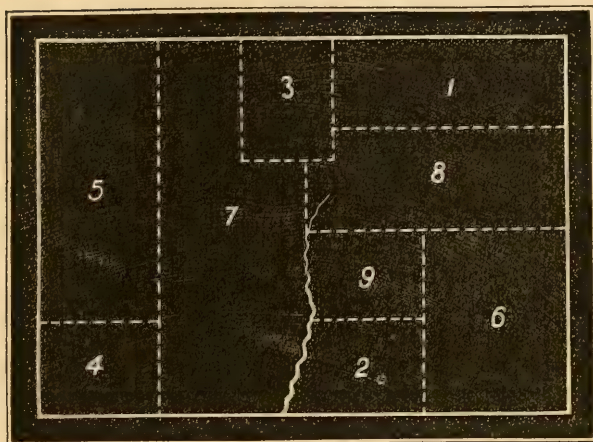
ELECTION DISTRICTS.

Though the boundaries of the townships already given did not absorb the two townships of 1790, the latter are not again mentioned in this section on the Luzerne records. Practically, the line of Willingborough extended to Nicholson on the south, and both, to Rindaw (district) on the west.

In 1805, the court was petitioned to erect the townships of Clifford, Bridgewater, and New Milford. The first named was approved "finally" in April, 1806; the second, in November, following; and the last, in August, 1807. The northeast corner of Clifford was then twelve miles below the State line, being also what was the northeast corner of old Nicholson; and its area was one hundred and eight square miles. The eastern limit of New Milford, like that of Clifford, was the line of Wayne County. Bridgewater extended north and south about twenty-five miles.

At August sessions, 1807, a petition from the "Nine Partners" was promptly considered, and Harford was granted January, 1808. For eleven years the inhabitants had desired township organization, but two or three previous petitions had failed to secure the result.

Fig. 6. (A.D. 1808.)



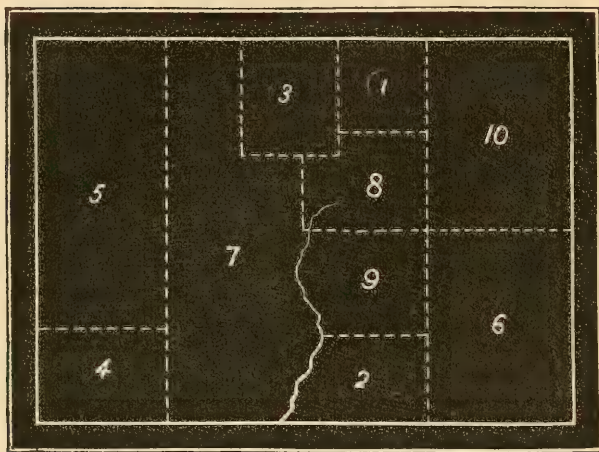
- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Willingborough. | 6. Clifford. |
| 2. Remainder of Nicholson. | 7. Bridgewater. |
| 3. Lawsville extended. | 8. New Milford. |
| 4. A section of Braintrim. | 9. Harford. |
| 5. Remainder of Rush. | |

In 1809, Harmony was organized, the last township ordered by the court of Luzerne in the section set off to Susquehanna County. It formed the northeast corner of the latter as it had of the former, extending from the State line twelve miles south, and from Wayne County nine miles west.

Early in 1808, a division of Luzerne County was contemplated, and a public meeting to favor the object was held July 13, at the house of Edward Fuller, in Bridgewater, about four miles below Montrose; Asa Lathrop presiding, and J. W. Raynsford acting as secretary. Owing to a disagreement as to county lines, it was proposed that all the townships should send delegates to a meeting to be held at the house of Salmon Bosworth, in Rush, September 1, following, and then endeavor to decide the matter; but it was not until a year and a half later that the act of legislature was passed, which erected the counties of Susquehanna and Ontario; and it was two years more before the former "bade good-bye to old mother Luzerne, and set up housekeeping for herself."

[In the map of Old Luzerne, the west line, indicating the relative position of Susquehanna, is either not far enough west, or the line of the north branch of the Wyalusing is incorrectly given, for the forks should be within Susquehanna County.]

Fig. 7. (A.D. 1810.)



THE TEN TOWNSHIPS SET OFF TO FORM SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY.

These are numbered in the order of their erection, a review of which may serve the reader:—

1. Willingborough, now Great Bend.
2. Nicholson, being that part of old Nicholson cut off from Luzerne by the county line, since August, 1813, and now called Lenox.
3. Lawsville, embracing Liberty and the greater part of Franklin.
4. Braintrim, being that part of old Braintrim cut off from Luzerne by the county line, and now called Auburn.
5. Rush, then extending eighteen miles north to the State line, by eight miles east and west, embracing besides its present limits, all of Middletown, Chocanut, and Apolocon, and the western parts of Jessup and Forest Lake.
6. Clifford, embracing besides its present limits, Gibson, Herrick, and the southern part of Ararat.
7. Bridgewater, then embracing besides its present limits, all of Brooklyn and Lathrop, Springville and Dimock, the eastern parts of Jessup and Forest Lake, all of Silver Lake, and the south part of Franklin.
8. New Milford, nearly as it is.
9. Harford—its southern and eastern lines slightly changed—was for many years known as “Nine Partners.”
10. Harmony, embracing besides its present limits, Oakland, Jackson, Thomson, and the northern part of Ararat.

In 1811, all moneys in the county district of Susquehanna were by act of Legislature, to be kept separate from those of Luzerne, and within the bounds of that district. February 25, 1812, a meeting was held at the house of Isaac Post, in Bridgewater, to recommend proper persons to the governor to fill the several offices necessary to the organization of Susquehanna county; Davis Dimock, chairman, and J. W. Raynsford, secretary. The citizens of each township were recommended to nominate officers at their annual town meeting in March, 1812, and make returns the Monday following at the house of I. Post.

Proclamation for elections, 1812, were issued from Luzerne to Susquehanna County district; but it had been decreed by act of Legislature that "from and after the *2d Tuesday of October*, 1812, Susquehanna shall enjoy and exercise in judicial concerns all powers and privileges;" and the new county was included with Tioga, Wayne, and Bradford in the 11th judicial district.

Bridgewater township, in the year 1810, numbered 1418 inhabitants; Clifford, 675; Harford, 477; Willingboro' and Harmony, 413; New Milford, 174; and Lawsville, 169.

Isaac Post was appointed treasurer of the county in 1812, Edward Fuller, sheriff; Bartlet Hinds, Labon Capron, and Isaac Brownson, commissioners, and Dr. Charles Fraser, prothonotary, clerk of the courts, register, and recorder.

At the time of the division of Luzerne County, Thomas Parke of Bridgewater was commissioner, but he resigned October, 1812; Hosea Tiffany had previously served as commissioner, and these two were the only ones who had been appointed to that office from the ten townships now set off. The court was organized by the appointment of the Hon. J. B. Gibson, President Judge, with Davis Dimock and William Thomson, Associate Judges—the two latter took their oaths before the Prothonotary of Luzerne.

The county seat was located at Montrose as early as July, 1811, by three commissioners appointed by the governor. They were permitted to locate it at a distance not exceeding seven miles from the centre of the county. Stakes were set at several places proposed; one in Brooklyn, one in Harford, and one in New Milford. But, in addition to a greater political influence existing, a stronger pecuniary interest was brought to bear for its location in Montrose. Dr. R. H. Rose, whose extensive tracts of land reached this vicinity, made more liberal offers to secure this location than any that could be made elsewhere. Besides, a gift of a public square at this point for the erection of the county buildings, as also of other lots, was made by Bartlet Hinds and Isaac Post.

The land given by Bartlet Hinds had been granted by the commonwealth to Thos. Cadwallader, who by deed conveyed it to Samuel Meredith, who by deed conveyed it to George Clymer, who by deed, October 19, 1804, conveyed it to Bartlet Hinds. Another portion was granted by the commonwealth to Jos. Bullock and Isaac Franks, who by deed conveyed it to Tench Francis, whose widow, by her attorney, conveyed the same to Bartlet Hinds, July 9, 1804. The land given by Isaac Post (consideration \$1.00) was first granted to the same parties, as the portion last mentioned; who by their deeds conveyed it

to Tench Francis, who by his last will and testament, April 4, 1800, devised his estate to his widow Anne Francis; who by deed, February 18, 1809, granted the land to Robert H. Rose; which sale was confirmed to the said Robert H. Rose, by deed, February 25, 1809, from Richard Penn (her attorney), and on the 5th of October of the same year was conveyed by him to Isaac Post. July 24, 1812, the aforesaid lands were deeded to Susquehanna County, by Isaac and Susannah Post, and Bartlet and Agnes Hinds; and, on the 31st of the same month, the conveyance was acknowledged as a free act and deed, before J. W. Raynsford, Justice of the Peace.

Soon after the organization of the board of commissioners, Isaac Post, the treasurer, was charged with the subscription papers of donations made towards building the court-house, etc. It will be seen by the following list of subscribers, with the sums given by each, that the amounts were graduated somewhat by the nearness of their property to the new county-seat, as well as by the length of their purses. Robert H. Rose, whose lands reached near the village, gave \$200; Stephen Wilson, whose farm was a little south of it, gave \$100; Abinoam Hinds, Conrad Hinds, and Isaac Peckins, gave each \$50; David Harris, Jonathan Wheaton, and James Trane,¹ gave each \$25; Simeon Tyler, Cyrus Messenger, Samuel Quick, Joseph Hubbard, and Samuel Cogswell, gave each \$20; Joseph Chapman, Edward Fuller, Joseph Butterfield, Henry Post, Levi Leonard, John Bard, Zebulon Deans, and Edmond Stone, gave each \$10; and Freeman Fishback, Thomas Scott, and Samuel Scott, gave each \$5; Bartlet Hinds, and Isaac and David Post, on whose lands the county-seat was located, gave sundry village lots.

The corner stone of the first court-house was laid in 1812, but the building was not erected until June, 1813; Oliver C. Smith was the builder. Though now so diminutive in size and appearance, compared with the new one, it was *then* considered quite a magnificent edifice—an ornament to this region of the State. Besides the court-room in the second story, the jail and jailor's residence were in the first story, and the corner rooms in front, above, and below, were made to accommodate all the county offices.

The first assessment of taxes by this county was for 1813. The following is the list of collectors, with the amount of their duplicates:—

¹ It may be news to those who recollect poor "Old Trane," who never had a family, and who died some years ago a pauper of this borough, that he was actually one of the *Fathers of the town*.

Bridgewater,	Jonah Brewster,	\$1265 04
Clifford,	Walter Lyon,	442 22
Rush,	Philo Bostwick,	418 37
Harford,	David Aldrich,	273 71
Willingboro' (Gt. Bend),	Silas Buck,	220 61
New Milford,	Benjamin Hayden,	194 99
Lawsville,	Titus Smith,	151 80
Harmony,	Isaac Hale,	71 22
Braintrim (Auburn),	William Cooley,	58 77
Nicholson (Lenox),	Solomon Millard,	57 27
Total,		\$3154 00

TOWNSHIP OFFICERS FOR 1813.

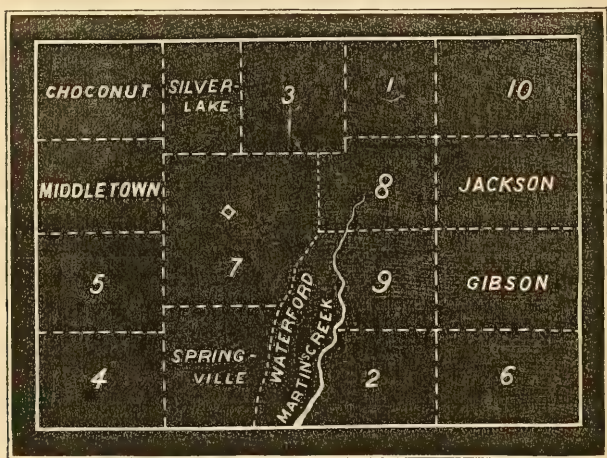
Sworn April 26th.

TOWNSHIPS.	CONSTABLES.	SUPERVISORS.	POOR MASTERS.	FREE-HOLDERS.
Bridgewater.	Jonah Brewster.	Stephen Wilson, Thomas Scott, (Edw'd Paine in August.)	Charles Fraser, Isaac Post.	
Willingborough.	Silas Buck.	Silas Buck, Joseph Bowes.	Noble Trow- bridge, Simeon Wylie.	
Clifford.	Samuel Miller.	Jonathan Burns. Elias Bell.	Walter Lyon, Joseph Wash- burn.	
New Milford.	Benj. Hayden.	Seth Mitchell, John Stanley.		
Rush.	James Agard.	Philo Morehouse Philo Bost- wick.		
Lawsville.	John Pierce.	Titus Smith, Nath'l Ives.	Jedediah Adams Friend Tuttle.	
Harford.	Orlen Capron.	Laban Capron, Jas. Chandler.		
Harmony.		Isaac Hale, John Hillborn	Nath'l Lewis, Marmaduke Salsbury.	John Hillborn, Marmaduke Salsbury, Adam Swagart, Samuel Tread- well.
Braintrim.		William Cooley, Philip Haverly		
Nicholson.	Starlin Bell.	Solomon Millard William Bell.	Elisha Bell, Michael Hal- stead.	

Petitions were read during the first term of court, January, 1813, praying for the erection of three new townships, viz., *Silver Lake*, *Choconut*, and *Gibson*. The first was confirmed in August following; at which time, also, Nicholson (with a small porcion of Harford) received the name of *Lenox*. *Gibson* was finally confirmed November, 1813. During the second and third terms of court, petitions were read, praying for the erection of *Springville* and *Waterford*, and the division of

Rush into three townships, viz., *Choconut*, *Middletown*, and *Rush*—a remonstrance being presented against the confirmation of a report making Choconut eight miles square, as proposed in January; the division was finally effected in January, 1814; while *Springville* and *Waterford* were not confirmed finally until the April following, or just one year after the petition was first read; but this was a decided improvement upon former delays, when Wilkes-Barre was the seat of justice for this remote section. The same month, the name Braintrim was changed to *Auburn*, and, in November following, Willingborough to *Great Bend*. *Jackson* was erected from the southern half of *Harmony*, December, 1815, having been confirmed “nisi” in the previous spring; from that time for ten years no proposed new township received the favor of the court.

Fig. 8. (A.D. 1815.)



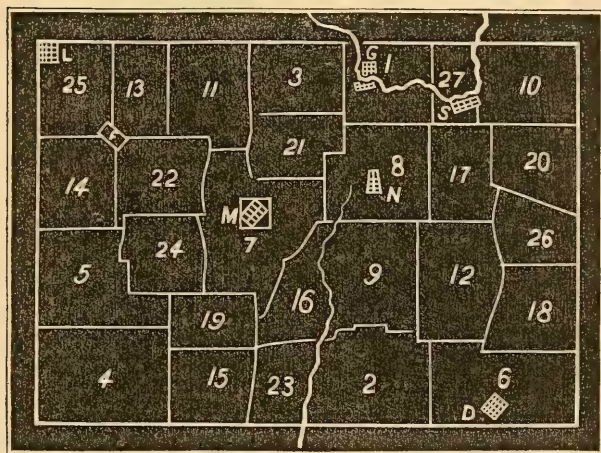
In the mean time, the name of *Waterford* had twice been changed, first, in 1823, to *Hopbottom*, and, in 1825, to *Brooklyn*, which then covered an area represented by Nos. 16 and 23 on the accompanying diagram.

Montrose, taken from *Bridgewater*, had been incorporated in 1824, and *Dundaff*, taken from *Clifford*, in 1828. *Herrick* was erected by order of the court, May, 1825, from *Gibson* and *Clifford*.

For the next seven years propositions in regard to townships referred to separation rather than annexation; when, late in 1832, a new township was organized from *Springville* and the southern part of *Bridgewater*, and named *Dimock*.

In May, 1833, *Thomson* was taken from *Jackson*.

Fig. 9. SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY, 1871.



- | | | |
|---------------|------------------|----------------|
| 18. Herrick. | 22. Forest Lake. | 25. Apolaccon. |
| 19. Dimock. | 23. Lathrop. | 26. Ararat. |
| 20. Thomson. | 24. Jessup. | 27. Oakland. |
| 21. Franklin. | | |

In December, 1835, *Franklin* was erected from Lawsville and the northern part of Bridgewater; and in September of the following year the name of Lawsville was changed to *Liberty*. Thus after nearly forty years' service the old name disappeared from the list of townships, though, happily, it is retained in the central P. O. of Liberty.

In 1836, the township of Forest Lake was taken from parts of Bridgewater, Silver Lake, and Middletown. This year the dispute in reference to a division of the county was renewed, and continued full three years, placing its fair proportions in no small danger of being sadly curtailed.

In 1846, the township of *Lathrop* was erected from the southern half of Brooklyn; that of *Jessup* from the western part of Bridgewater and the eastern part of Rush; and, from Choconut, more than half was taken to constitute *Apolaccon*. The borough of Friendsville was incorporated in 1848. *Ararat* was only a settlement of Harmony and Clifford, and afterwards of Jackson and Gibson, and then of Herrick and Thomson, until 1852, when its various transmigrations were terminated in its promotion to a township.

By decree of court, Susquehanna Depot became a borough, August, 1853. *Oakland* township was erected from the western part of Harmony, in December of the same year.

The borough of New Milford was incorporated, December,

1859. Great Bend, November, 1861; and Little Meadows, March, 1862.

It should be observed, that, of the twenty-seven townships, seven received their names in honor of the Judges of the courts of Susquehanna County with the exception of *Rush*, which, being erected while it was a part of Luzerne, was named after Judge Rush then presiding over the courts at Wilkes-Barre.

RECAPITULATION.

1. Willingborough	(changed to Great Bend, 1814),	confirmed "finally"	April, 1793.
2. Nicholson	(" Lenox, 1813),	" "	Aug. 1795.
3. Lawsville	(" Liberty, 1836),	" "	Jan. 1798.
4. Braintrim	(" Auburn, 1814),	" "	1799.
5. Rush	(reduced to present limits 1814),	" "	Nov. 1801.
6. Clifford	(" " " 1825),	" "	April, 1806.
7. Bridgewater	(" " " 1846),	" "	Nov. 1806.
8. New Milford	. . . . .	" "	Aug. 1807.
9. Harford	. . . . .	" "	Jan. 1808.
10. Harmony	(reduced to present limits 1853),	" "	1809.
11. Silver Lake	(" " " 1836),	" "	Aug. 1813.
12. Gibson	. . . . .	" "	Nov. 1813.
13. Choconut	(reduced to present limits 1846),	" "	Jan. 1814.
14. Middletown	(" " " " "	" "	Jan. 1814.
15. Springville	(" " " 1832),	" "	April, 1814.
16. Waterford	{ (changed to Hopbottom, 1823), " Brooklyn, 1825), " present limits, 1846), }	" "	April, 1814.
17. Jackson		" "	Dec. 1815.
18. Herrick		" "	May, 1825.
19. Dimock	(" " " 1852),	" "	Dec. 1832.
20. Thomson	. . . . .	" "	May, 1833.
21. Franklin	. . . . .	" "	Dec. 1835.
22. Forest Lake	. . . . .	" "	May, 1836.
23. Luthrop	. . . . .	" "	1846.
24. Jessup	. . . . .	" "	1846.
25. Apolacon	. . . . .	" "	1846.
26. Ararat	. . . . .	" "	1852.
27. Oakland	. . . . .	" "	Dec. 1853.

CHAPTER VI.

OFFICERS OF THE COUNTY.—JUDGES OF THE COURTS.

[FOR the following statements and the list of county officers to 1858, the compiler is indebted to Hon. J. W. Chapman.]

Hon. John B. Gibson (since Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania) was the first President Judge of the district to which this county was attached. It embraced Susquehanna, Bradford, Tioga, and Wayne Counties. He presided about four years.

Hon. Thomas Burnside succeeded him in September, 1816, presiding two years. He, too, has since been a Judge of the Supreme Court.

Hon. Edward Herrick first presided here in August, 1818, being appointed for a new district embracing Susquehanna, Bradford, and Tioga Counties. He presided for twenty-one years, lacking one term of court, when he was superseded by the adoption of the new constitution limiting the terms of all the Judges, and

Hon. John N. Conyngham¹ succeeded him in May, 1839, continuing two years.

Hon. William Jessup, who had previously been appointed for the district embracing Luzerne, Monroe, Pike, and Wayne Counties, first presided in our county, in April, 1841; Susquehanna being added to his district, and Luzerne put with Bradford and Tioga in Judge Conyngham's district, for the mutual accommodation of both. Judge J. presided for ten and a half years.

Hon. David Wilmot was first *elected* Judge for Bradford, Susquehanna, and Wyoming in the fall of 1851. He presided nearly six years, and on his resignation in the summer of 1857,

Hon. Darius Bullock² was appointed to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the year. The district embraced only Bradford and Susquehanna.

Judge Wilmot was appointed to preside again in January, 1858, and was re-elected for ten years, in the following fall.

Hon. Ulysses Mercur was appointed President Judge of this judicial district in March, 1861, and in the October following was elected to the same office for a term of ten years from December, 1861; was elected to the Thirty-ninth Congress, and resigned his judgeship, March 4, 1865; was re-elected to the Fortieth and Forty-first Congresses, and was re-elected to the Forty-second Congress as a Republican. In the fall of 1872 he was elected a Judge of the Supreme Court.

Hon. Farris B. Streeter was appointed to succeed Judge M. in 1865. He was elected in October of that year for ten years.

Hon. Paul Dudley Morrow was appointed additional law judge of the 13th district, March 1, 1870. He was elected the following October to the same office for ten years from December, 1870.

¹ John N. Conyngham was born in Philadelphia, December, 1798; graduated at University of Pennsylvania in 1816; studied law with James R. Ingersoll, and was admitted to the bar, in 1820; soon after he came to Wilkes-Barre, where he married a daughter of Lord Butler, Esq. In 1841, after he had served for two years as President Judge of this district, the change referred to above was made with Judge Jessup. "Two more able and upright judges have never presided in these courts."

In 1850 Judge C. was *elected* to the judgeship he had held by appointment, and was re-elected in 1860. In 1870, he resigned from failing eyesight.

In 1871, he was killed on a railroad at Magnolia, Miss.

² Dr. Bullock is now nearly 80 years of age. He was for years a practicing physician, studied law, was an able counsellor, President Judge, a Major General of the olden time.

ASSOCIATE JUDGES.

Davis Dimock and William Thomson were appointed Associate Judges for this county at its organization in 1812. The terms of all the Judges were then "during good behavior;" but the resignation of Judge Thomson, after serving twenty-five years, created a vacancy which was filled by the appointment of

Isaac Post in October, 1837, who served a little over five years. The limitation imposed by the constitution terminated Judge Dimock's services after nearly twenty-eight years, and

Jabez Hyde was appointed in his place, March, 1840. His death, about eighteen months afterward, created a vacancy, and

Benjamin Lathrop was appointed in his place, November, 1841. He served five years.

Dr. Calvin Leet succeeded Judge Post, February, 1843, for five years.

Moses C. Tyler succeeded Judge Lathrop, March, 1847, for five years, nearly.

Charles Tingley succeeded Judge Leet in March, 1848. His term lasted only three and one-half years, as the amendment to the constitution for the election of Judges cut him off, and

John Boyle, and Davis D. Warner, were *elected* Associate Judges for five years, in the fall of 1851.

Urbane Burrows and Charles F. Read were elected in the fall of 1856.

Charles F. Read (second term) and I. P. Baker were elected in 1861.

Alfred Baldwin and R. T. Ashley were elected in 1866.

James W. Chapman and Judson H. Cook were elected in 1871.

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.

(Those in italics are from Susquehanna County.)

1812. Isaac Smith, Jared Irwin, for North'nd, Union, Col., Luzerne and Susque'na.

1814. David Scott, Wm. Wilson, " " " " " "

1816. " " " " " " " " " "

1817. J. Murray, (in pl. of Scott, res.) " " " " " "

1818. " Geo. Denison, " " " " " "

1820. W. C. Ellis, " " " " " " " "

1822-24-26. Samuel McKean, George Kremer, Espy Van Horn, for Luzerne, Susque'na, Bradford, Tioga, North'nd, Col., Union, Lycom., Potter, McKean.

1828. *Philander Stephens*, Alem Marr, James Ford.

1830. " " Lewis Dewatt, " " " "

1832-34. John Laporte, for Susquehanna, Bradford, Tioga, Potter, McKean.

1836-38. Sam'l W. Morris, " " " " " "

1840. *Davis Dimock, Jr.*, died January, 1842.

1842. *Almon H. Read*, elected in March, " " " " " "

1842. " (died) for Susquehanna, Bradford, Tioga.

1844. *G. Fuller*, elected to fill vac., " " " " " "

1844. D. Wilmot, for 29th Congress, " " " " " "

1846-48. " re-elected, " " " " " "

1850-52-54-56-58-60. *G. A. Grow*, " " " " " "

1862-64-66. Charles Denison.

1868. Geo. W. Woodward.

1871. L. D. Shoemaker.

STATE SENATORS.

(Representing Susquehanna after our separation from Luzerne.)

1812, William Ross, for Northumb., Union, Columbia, Luzerne, and Susque.				
1814, Thomas Murray, Jr.,	"	"	"	"
1816, Charles Fraser,	"	"	"	"
1818, Simon Snyder,	"	"	"	"
1819, Robert Willet,	"	"	"	"
1820, Redmond Conyngham,	"	"	"	"
1822, Jonah Brewster, for Susquehanna, Bradford, and Tioga.				
1825, John Ryon,	"	"	"	"
1829, Samuel McKean,	"	"	"	"
1830, Reuben Wilder,	"	"	"	"
1833, Almon H. Read,	"	"	"	"
1837, Elihu Case, for Susquehanna and Bradford.				
1841, Asa Dimock,	"	"	"	"
1844, Wm. H. Dimmick, for Susquehanna, Wayne, and Wyoming.				
1847, F. B. Streeter,	"	"	"	"
1850, George Sanderson, for Susquehanna, Bradford, and Wyoming.				
1853, William M. Platt,	"	"	"	"
1856, E. Reed Myer,	"	"	"	"
1859, George Landon,	"	"	"	"
1862, William J. Turrell,	"	"	"	"
1865, George Landon,	"	"	"	"
1868, P. M. Osterhout,	"	"	"	"
1871, L. F. Fitch,	"	"	"	"

STATE REPRESENTATIVES.

1812, Charles Miner, Benjamin Dorrance, for Luzerne and Susquehanna.			
1813, Jabez Hyde, Jr., Joseph Pruner,	"	"	"
1814, Putnam Catlin, Benjamin Dorrance,	"	"	"
1815, Redmond Conyngham, Benj. Dorrance,	"	"	"
1816, Jonah Brewster, George Denison,	"	"	"
1817, " " James Reeder,	"	"	"
1818, " " " "	"	"	"
1819, " " Benjamin Dorrance,	"	"	"
1820, Cornelius Cortright, " "	"	"	"
1821, Jabez Hyde, Jr., Andrew Beaumont,	"	"	"
1822, Hyde, Beaumont, Jacob Drumheller,	"	"	"
1823, " Drumheller, Elijah Shoemaker,	"	"	"
1824, Philander Stephens, Drumheller, G. M. Hollenback,	"	"	"
1825, Stephens, Hollenback, Samuel H. Thomas,	"	"	"
1826, " Thomas, Garrick Mallery,	"	"	"
1827, Almon H. Read, Mallery, George Denison,	"	"	"
1828, Isaac Post, " " " "	"	"	"
1829, Almon H. Read, for Susquehanna alone.			
1833, Bela Jones,	"	"	"
1834, Joseph Williams,	"	"	"
1835, Bela Jones,	"	"	"
1836-37, Asa Dimock,	"	"	"
1838-39, Chas. Chandler, Jr.,	"	"	"
1840, Franklin Lusk,	"	"	"
1841, Dr. Calvin Leet,	"	"	"
1842, Franklin N. Avery,	"	"	"
1843-44, Lewis Brush, Thomas Morley, for Susquehanna and Wyoming.			
1845-46, David Thomas, Schuyler Fasset,	"	"	"
1847-48, Samuel Taggart, R. R. Little,	"	"	"
1849, Sidney B. Wells, E. Mowry, Jr.,	"	"	"

1850, <i>Isaac Reckhow</i> , E Mowry, Jr., for Susquehanna, Wyoming, and Sullivan.			
1851, <i>Isaac Reckhow</i> , Michael Meylert,	"	"	"
1852, <i>Ezra B. Chase</i> , John W. Denison,	"	"	"
1853, <i>Ezra B. Chase</i> , James Deegan,	"	"	"
1854, <i>Charles J. Lathrop</i> , John Sturdevant,	"	"	"
1855, Thomas Ingham, John V. Smith,	"	"	"
1856, <i>Simeon B. Chase</i> , Alfred Hine,	"	"	"
1857-58, <i>Simeon B. Chase</i> , for Susquehanna alone.			
1859-60, <i>George T. Frazier</i> ,	"	"	
1861-62, <i>D. D. Warner</i> ,	"	"	
1863, <i>George H. Wells</i> ,	"	"	
1864, <i>George H. Wells</i> and P. M. Osterhout, for Susquehanna and Wyoming.			
1865, <i>J. T. Cameron</i> , P. M. Osterhout,	"	"	
1866, <i>J. T. Cameron</i> , Jacob Kennedy,	"	"	
1867, <i>Loren Burritt</i> , Ziba Lott,	"	"	
1868, <i>Loren Burritt</i> , A. P. Stephens,	"	"	
1869, <i>A. P. Stephens</i> , Harvey Tyler,	"	"	
1870, <i>E. B. Beardslee</i> , A. B. Walker,	"	"	
1871, <i>E. B. Beardslee</i> , M. Brunges,	"	"	
1872, <i>H. M. Jones</i> ,	"	"	

MEMBERS FROM WESTMORELAND TO CONNECTICUT ASSEMBLY.

April, 1774, Zebulon Butler, Timothy Smith.
 Sept. 1774, Christopher Avery, John Jenkins.
 April, 1775, Capt. Z. Butler, Joseph Sluman.
 Sept. 1775, Capt. Z. Butler, Maj. Ezekiel Pierce.
 May, 1775, John Jenkins, Solomon Strong.
 Oct. 1776, Col. Z. Butler, Col. Nathan Denison.
 May, 1777, John Jenkins, Isaac Tripp.
 May, 1778, Nathan Denison, Anderson Dana.
 Oct. 1778, Col. N. Denison, Lieut. Asahel Buck.
 May, 1779, Col. N. Denison, Dea. John Hurlbut.
 May, 1780, John Hurlbut, Jonathan Fitch.
 Oct. 1780, Nathan Denison, John Hurlbut.
 May, 1781, John Hurlbut, Jonathan Fitch.
 Oct. 1781, Obadiah Gore, Capt. John Franklin.
 May, 1782, Obadiah Gore, Jonathan Fitch.
 Oct. 1783, Obadiah Gore, Jonathan Fitch.

MEMBERS FROM LUZERNE COUNTY TO PENNSYLVANIA ASSEMBLY.

COUNCIL.

1787, 1788, and 1789, to the 9th of October, Nathan Denison. 30th of October, 1789, to 20th of December, 1790, Lord Butler.

On the 20th of December, 1790, the Council closed its session. The State was organized under the constitution of 1790, and a senate took the place of a council.

As Susquehanna County was associated with Luzerne in choosing Legislators, previous to 1829, the following table of Senators and Representatives to 1811, the year following the organization of the county, will be profitable for reference:—

SENATE.

1790, (with Northumberland and Huntington), William Montgomery.
 1792, William Hepburn.
 1794, George Wilson (with Northumberland, Mifflin, and Lycoming).
 1796, Samuel Dale (with Northumberland, Mifflin, and Lycoming).

- 1798, Samuel McClay.
 1800, James Harris.
 1801, Jonas Hartzell (with Northampton and Wayne).
 1803, Thomas Mewhorter.
 1805, William Lattimore.
 1807, Matthias Gross.
 1808, Nathan Palmer (with Northumberland).
 1810, James Laird.

HOUSE.

Year of Election Given.

- 1787, John Paul Schott.
 1788, 1789, and 1790, Obadiah Gore.
 1791 and 1792, Simon Spaulding.
 1793, Ebenezer Bowman.
 1794, Benjamin Carpenter.
 1795 and 1796, John Franklin.
 1797 and 1798, Roswell Welles.
 1799 and 1800, John Franklin.
 1801, John Franklin, Lord Butler.
 1802, John Franklin, Roswell Welles.
 1803, John Franklin, John Jenkins.
 1804, Roswell Welles, Jonas Ingham.
 1805, Roswell Welles, Nathan Beach.
 1806, Roswell Welles, Moses Coolbaugh.
 1807, Charles Miner, Nathan Beach.
 1808, Charles Miner, Benjamin Dorrance.
 1809 and 1810, B. Dorrance, Thomas Graham.
 1811, Thomas Graham, Jonathan Stevens.

TREASURERS.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1812. Isaac Post. | 1843. David D. Warner. |
| 1815. David Post. | 1845. Walter Follett. |
| 1818. Justin Clark. | 1847. Harvey Tyler. |
| 1821. Charles Avery. | 1849. O. G. Hempstead. |
| 1824. Mason S. Wilson. | 1851. Wm. K. Hatch. |
| 1825. J. W. Raynsford. | 1853. D. R. Lathrop. |
| 1826. Hiram Finch. | 1855. S. A. Woodruff. |
| 1828. Davis Dimock, Jr. | 1857. C. W. Mott. |
| 1831. C. L. Ward. | 1859. D. W. Titus. |
| 1832. William Foster. | 1861. Amos Nichols. |
| 1834. Davis Dimock, Jr. | 1863. Nicholas Shoemaker. |
| 1835. George Fuller. | 1865. Charles B. Dodge. |
| 1837. Henry J. Webb. | 1867. Richard V. Kennedy. |
| 1839. Moses C. Tyler. | 1869. Benjamin Glidden. |
| 1841. Moses C. Tyler (elected). | 1871. Tracy Hayden. |

PROTHONOTARIES, CLERK OF COURTS, REGISTER, AND RECORDER.

Dr. Charles Fraser held all these offices by appointment of Governor Snyder, from the organization of the county in 1812, four years.

Jabez Hyde held all these appointments under Governors Snyder and Findley from December, 1816, four years; and Judge De Haert, who had been clerk for Dr. Fraser a part of his time, did *all* the writing as deputy for Mr. Hyde during his term.

Asa Dimock, Jr., was prothonotary and clerk of the courts, doing his own work, from January, 1821, under Governors Heister, Shulze, and Wolf; in all fifteen years.

David Post was register and recorder (A. H. Read and other deputies) under Governor Heister three years from January, 1821.

William Jessup was register and recorder under Governors Shulze and Wolf, nine years from January, 1824. Did the work mainly himself at first; E. Kingsbury and others, students at law, were deputies some of the time.

Christopher L. Ward was register and recorder under Governor Wolf three years from January, 1833. Secku Meylert deputy a part of the time.

George Walker was prothonotary, etc., under Governor Ritner three years from January, 1836. Did his own work mainly.

Simon Stevens was register and recorder (S. Meylert deputy) the first year of Governor Ritner's term, and

Charles Avery was appointed for the remainder of the term, and did his own work.

George Fuller was prothonotary, and *Hiram Finch* register and recorder under Governor Porter in 1839.

George Fuller and H. Finch	<i>elected in</i>	1839.
John Blanding and	" "	1842.
" " "	" "	1845.
Fred. M. Williams and Charles L. Brown,		1848.
Fred. A. Ward and J. T. Langdon,		1851.
Sidney B. Wells and James W. Chapman,		1854.
Geo. B. R. Wade and Charles Neale,		1857.
Edwin M. Turner and Harmon K. Newell,		1860.
Gabriel B. Eldred and Joseph H. McCain,		1863.
" " " J. F. Shoemaker,		1866.
W. F. Simrell and Jerome R. Lyons,		1869.
H. N. Tiffany, register and recorder,		1872.

(Mr. Simrell died in 1870, and J. F. Shoemaker was appointed to fill the vacancy until the election of G. B. Eldred, the present incumbent.)

NOTE.—All the registers and recorders from 1839 to 1869, and all the prothonotaries excepting Messrs. Ward and Wells, did their own work mainly, so far as one person *could* do it all. F. M. Williams served as deputy for the former exception, and J. T. Langdon, F. Fraser, and W. B. Wells for the latter. Miss Mary E. Lyons, sister of the present register and recorder, does the whole work in the recording of deeds.

The work of transferring and rearranging the index books in the Offices of Record at Montrose, and in the Register's Office, was performed recently by J. B. Simmons and Miss Lottie Simmons. Some months were required for its completion. The clerical execution was entrusted to the lady, and it will not suffer by comparison with the kindred work in the prothonotary's office.

Some idea of the magnitude of the labor may be formed by considering that there are about forty-five volumes of deeds alone, averaging about 800 pages of

written matter to the volume, besides mortgages, records, letters of attorney, etc. The twenty-five or thirty books first examined and indexed, necessitated something like 50,000 entries of grantors and grantees. The new indexes are superior to the old ones for the reason that where many grantors or grantees are named in one conveyance, each name is indexed. Giving the acreage and location, necessitates a careful reference to each conveyance.

COMMISSIONERS, AUDITORS, AND TREASURERS.

County commissioners have always been elected annually; after the first board, one every year to serve three years each; and so following each other out in succession.

Auditors in the same manner after 1814. None elected till 1813, and then three for one year each.

Treasurers were appointed annually by the commissioners till 1841; since which they have been elected once in two years. The following are the names of those who were elected to these offices in October of each year, or appointed in January following.

COMMISSIONERS.

1812. Bartlet Hinds, 1 year.	1842. Abel Hewitt.
“ Laban Capron, 2 years.	1843. Alonzo Williams.
“ Isaac Brownson, 3 years.	1844. Isaac Reckhow.
1813. Jonah Brewster,	1845. Jonas Carter.
1814. Hosea Tiffany, Jr.	1846. Nathaniel West.
1815. Stephen Wilson.	1847. Elisha P. Farnam.
1816. Sylvanus Hatch.	1848. David O. Turrell.
1817. Daniel Ross.	1849. John Murphy.
1818. Philander Stephens.	1850. Shubael Dimock.
1819. Samuel Warner.	1851. John Hancock.
1820. Joseph Washburn.	1852. Amos Williams.
1821. Philo Bostwick.	1853. Amherst Carpenter.
1822. Hosea Tiffany, Jr.	1854. Joseph Smith.
1823. Simon Stephens.	1855. Wm. T. Case.
1824. Edward Packer.	1856. Perrin Wells.
1825. Charles Avery.	1857. Orange Mott, Jr.
1826. Walter Lyon.	1858. Levi S. Page.
1827. Ansel Hill.	1859. C. M. Stewart.
1828. Joseph Williams.	1860. J. B. Cogswell.
1829. Wm. Hartley.	1861. James Leighton.
1830. Joseph Washburn.	1862. Nelson French.
1831. Calvin Summers.	1863. John B. Wilson.
1832. Arad Wakelee.	1864. David Wakelee.
1833. Jonathan C. Sherman.	1865. J. T. Ellis.
1834. Cyrus H. Avery.	1866. B. M. Gage.
1835. Charles Tingley.	1867. Samuel Sherer.
1836. Robert Griffiths.	1868. J. T. Ellis, second time.
1837. John Comfort.	1869. Preserved Hinds.
1838. Edward Heald.	1870. Edward L. Beebe.
1839. Thomas Burdick.	1871. Oscar Washburn.
1840. Nathaniel Norris.	1872. Lyman Blakeslee.
1841. Wm. G. Handrick.	

Col. Thomas Parke and Hosea Tiffany, Esq., were commissioners for Luzerne County before this county was set off.

COMMISSIONERS' CLERKS.

Jonah Brewster was appointed for the first year, 1813, and Dr. Asa Park for the second.

Almon H. Read was clerk five years from January, 1815.

Bela Jones deputy part of the time.

William Jessup six years from January, 1820.

George Fuller three years and two months from January, 1826.

E. Kingsbury, Jr., one year and ten months from March, 1829.

B. Streeter eight months and J. W. Chapman four months of 1831.

Davis Dimock, Jr. for 1832. Charles Avery for 1833.

Secku Meylert seven years from January, 1834. Asa Dimock for 1841.

Robert J. Niven eleven years and four months from January, 1842.

William A. Crossmon from May, 1853, to present time.

Remarks.—For the information of those who desire to know what townships have furnished commissioners for the county, and how many each (for it is desirable that these officers should be somewhat distributed), it may be seen that

Bridgewater, having them so frequently at first, has had in all, counting Mr. Sherman, who was afterwards cut off into *Jessup*, viz., Messrs. Hinds, Brewster, Wilson, Stephens, Warner, Joseph Williams, Sherman, Wells.

Harford, Capron, Tiffany twice, Tingley, Carpenter.

Rush, Brownson, Ross, Griffis, now in *Jessup*.

Gibson, J. Washburn twice, Case, O. Washburn.

Great Bend, Reckhow, Hatch.

Springville, Stephens (afterwards in *Dimock*), Wakelee.

Apolacon, Amos Williams, P. Hinds (*Little Meadows*).

Middletown, Bostwick, Handrick, Wilson.

Brooklyn, Packer, Hewitt.

Herrick, Lyon, Dimock, Ellis.

Silver Lake, Hill, Murphy, Gage.

Lenox, Hartley, Farnam.

Clifford, Burdick, Stewart.

Jackson, Norris, French.

Auburn, C. H. Avery, Carter, Coggsell.

Jessup, Hancock, Smith (besides Sherman and Griffis).

Franklin, Alonzo Williams, Leighton, Beebe.

And the following towns have had one each: *Montrose*, Chas. Avery; *New Milford*, Summers; *Harmony*, Comfort; *Choconut* (afterwards *Apolacon*), Heald; *Liberty*, Turrell; *Thomson* (since *Ararat*), West; *Forest Lake*, Mott; *Susquehanna*, Page; *Dimock*, Samuel Sherer; *Oakland* and *Lathrop* have never had a commissioner, nor has *Choconut* or *Thomson* within their present limits.

SHERIFFS AND CORONERS.

The election for sheriffs and coroners has always been for three years each. They have been as follows:—

SHERIFF.

- 1812. Edward Fuller.
- 1815. Austin Howell.
- 1818. Samuel Gregory.
- 1821. Philander Stephens.
- 1824. Samuel Gregory.
- 1827. Charles Chandler, Jr.
- 1830. Joseph Williams.
- 1833. Charles Avery.
- 1836. William Hartley.
- 1839. Walter Follett.
- 1842. Thomas Johnson.
- 1845. Nelson C. Warner.
- 1848. Christopher M. Gere.
- 1851. Gabriel B. Eldred.
- 1854. Fred. P. Hollister.
- 1857. John Young.
- 1860. Elias V. Green.
- 1863. David Summers.
- 1866. S. F. Lane.
- 1869. Wm. T. Moxley.
- 1872. M. B. Helme.

CORONER.

- Stephen Wilson.
- Philander Stevens.
- Chapman Carr.
- Daniel Trowbridge.
- Charles Chandler, Jr.
- Benjamin J. Dimock.
- Davis D. Warner
- Hiram Finch.
- Walter Follet.
- Thomas Johnson.
- Jonas Carter.
- Wm. B. Handrick.
- John Baker.
- William H. Boyd.
- Benjamin Dix.
- Dr. J. Blackman.
- Dr. C. C. Halsey.
- Dr. Braton Richardson.
- Dr. L. A. Smith.
- Dr. C. C. Halsey.
- Dr. C. C. Halsey.

COUNTY SURVEYORS.

Prior to 1827, Susquehanna County was connected with some other county (Bradford?), as a deputy-surveyor's district. In 1827, the surveyor-general appointed Adolphus D. Olmstead his deputy for Susquehanna County; in 1830, J. W. Chapman; in 1833, John Boyle; in 1836, Issachar Mann; in 1839-1847, John Boyle; in 1847, O. S. Beebe. County surveyors first elected in 1850, O. S. Beebe; in 1853, Timothy Boyle; in 1856, Joel Turrell; in 1859, Wilson J. Turrell; in 1862-65-68, J. W. Chapman; in 1871, O. S. Beebe.

ATTORNEYS FROM OTHER COUNTIES ADMITTED TO THE BAR OF SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY, FROM THE YEAR 1813 TO 1840.

WHEN ADMITTED.	NAMES.	COUNTIES.
1813, Jan. Term .	Eben'r Bowman	Luzerne.
"	David Scott	"
"	Garrick Mallery	"
"	Nathan Palmer	"
"	Putnam Catlin ¹	"
"	Henry Wilson	"
1813, Apr. Term .	Elihu Baldwin	Bradford.
1813, Aug. Term .	Roswell Welles	Luzerne.
	Alpheus C. Stewart	"
	George Denison	"
	Thomas Graham	"
	John Evans	"
	Thomas Dyer	"
	Edward Herrick ²	Bradford.
1813, Nov. Term .	Luther Barstow	"
1814, Aug. Term .	Thomas B. Overton	Luzerne, Bradford.
1817, Sept. Term .	Josiah H. Minor	Wayne.
"	Nathaniel B. Eldred	"
1818, May Term .	Thomas Welles	"
1818, Dec. Term .	Amzi Fuller	Wayne.
1819, Aug. 31 .	Horace Williston ³	Bradford.
1819, Sept. 2 .	Latham A. Burrows	"
1820, Jan. 31 .	Oristus Collins	Luzerne.
1821, Jan. 29 .	Chester Butler	"
"	John N. Conyngham	"
1821, Feb. 2 .	Simon Gages Throop	"
1821, Sept. Term .	Dan Dimmick	Pike.
"	James W. Bowman	Luzerne.
"	Thomas W. Morris	"
1824, Feb. Term .	Stephen Strong	Oswego.
1824, Aug. Term .	Wm. Seymour	"
1825, Aug. Term .	Henry Pettebone	Luzerne.
"	Benjamin A. Bidlack	"
1826, Sept. Term .	Thomas Fuller	Wayne.
1826, Dec. Term .	Ezra S. Sweet	Owego.
"	David Woodcock	"
1830, May Term .	George B. Westcott	Wayne.
1830, Aug. Term .	Robert Charles Johnson	Broome.
1831, Aug. Term .	George W. Woodward	Luzerne.
1833, Dec. Term .	Volney L. Maxwell	"
1834, Dec. Term .	Luther Kidder	"
1835, May Term .	David Wilmot	Bradford.
1836, May Term .	Lewis Jones	Luzerne.
1840, Nov. Term .	Hendrick B. Wright	"
	And about twenty-five later admissions.	

¹ 1787, first Court, May 29. In 1794, when he and E. Bowman, the only lawyers in Luzerne, declined to serve, two lawyers from Connecticut were imported.

² Now President Judge.

³ Horace Williston was a native of Sheffield, Conn., and the youngest brother of the late Seth Williston, D.D. He studied law in Elmira; practiced in Binghamton, and also in Susquehanna County courts, many years, even after his removal to Athens, Bradford County. He was eminent in his profession, and distinguished for strict integrity and love of justice. He was President Judge of the Thirteenth Judicial District. He died August 14, 1855.

LIST OF STUDENTS AND RESIDENT LAWYERS.

WHEN ADM'D	NAMES.	WITH WHOM STUDIED.	REMARKS.
1814, Apr.	Charles Catlin.	Attorney from Luzerne.	Became a resident ab't 1819.
1816, Sept.	Almon H. Read.	Attorney in Vt. Ex'd.	Representative in Congress 1842. Died 1843.
1817, May 5	Benjamin T. Case.	Attorney in Bradford Co.	Came to M. in 1816. Died here in 1862.
1818, Dec.	George Catlin.	At Wilkes-Barre (?)	Examined. Became an artist.
1820, Feb. 2	William Jessup.	A. H. Read.	President Judge.
1821, Apr.	Balthazar De Haert.		Deputy Prothonotary.
1823, Feb. 3	James A. Gordon.		Montrose. Removed.
1826, May 1	Earl Wheeler.		Dundaff. Ed'r. Removed.
1828, Sept. 1	Benjamin Parke.	Attorney from Harrisburg.	Ret. to M. in 1863. Farmer.
1828, Sept. 2	Ebenezer Kingsbury, Jr.	Wm. Jessup.	App. Dep. Att'y-Gen'l 1830.
1830, Aug. 30	Barzillai Streeter.		Montrose.
1830, Nov. 29	John J. Wurts.		"
1830, Dec. 3	Cephas J. Dunham.	Attorney from Northampton.	Here a year or two.
1831, Jan. 31	Franklin Lusk.		State Rep. Died Feb. 1853.
"	Norman I. Post.		Became a merchant. Died.
1831, Aug. 30	Rinaldo D. Parker.		Dead.
1832, May 1	William Wurts.	J. J. Wurts.	Removed.
1832, Apr. 30	Thomas P. Phinney.	Attorney from Luzerne.	Dundaff. Dep. Att'y-Gen'l.
1833,	Davis Dimock, Jr.	B. T. Case.	Rep. in Cong. 1840. Died 1842
1833,	Albert L. Post.	Wm. Jessup.	Baptist minister. Dep. Attorney 1836.
1834, Nov. 17	Wm. C. Tiffany.	B. T. Case.	Harford.
1836, May 5	James C. Biddle.	Wm. Jessup.	Did not practice. Died 1841.
1836, Nov. 22	Ralph B. Little.	Wheeler, Case, & D. Wilmot Dimock.	Oldest practicing lawyer.
1837,	Chris'r L. Ward.	Wm. Jessup.	Removed to Bradford Co. Died 1870.
1837,	Philip Fraser.	"	U. S. Dis. Judge. Florida.
1838, May 8	Joseph T. Richards.	"	Practiced 12 years. Died in Cal. 1853.
"	Harris W. Patrick.	A. L. Post.	Removed to Bradford Co.
1838,	Lyman De Wolf.	Attorney from Bradford.	Friendsville. Removed.
1838, Sept. 4	Ariel Carr.	A. L. Post.	
"	Wm. J. Turrell.	"	District-Attorney. Speaker Penn. Senate 1862-1865.
"	Robert J. Niven.	Wm Jessup.	
1839, Feb. 5	Benjamin S. Bentley.	"	President Judge (vacancy) at Williamsport.
"	J. R. Barstow.	"	Practiced in Bradford Co.
1839, May 8	Sylvester Abel.	"	Practiced and died at Ann Arbor, Mich.
1840, Apr. 27	George H. Welles.		Prac. in Wilkes-Barre. Representative from Gibson.
"	Almon Virgil.	Attorney from Warren.	Baptist minister.
1840, Nov.	Sabin Hatch.	F. Lusk.	Justice of the peace. Died.
1841, Apr. 20	Peter Byrne.		Removed to Scranton.
"	Farris B. Streeter.	Davis Dimock, Jr.	District-Attorney. President Judge, 13th Judicial Dist.
1841, Aug. 18	S. S. N. Fuller.	F. Lusk.	Removed to the West.
1842, Apr.	Franklin Fraser.	Wm. Jessup.	District-Attorney 6 years.
"	Ezra Maxon.		Lenox. Removed to the West. Dead.
"	Wm. C. Salmon.	F. Lusk.	Removed to Milford. Dead.
1843, Aug. 21	Albert Chamberlin.	Bentley & Richards.	District Attorney, 6 years, Justice Peace, U. S. Assessor. Rem. to Scranton.
"	Benjamin F. Smith.		
"	William Fordham.	Wm. J. Turrell & A. Carr.	Removed to Chicago.
1844, Aug. 19	John H. Dimock.	D. Dimock, Jr.	Dist. Att'y 1850 (Firstelect.)
"	Samuel B. Mulford.	Wm. Jessup.	Died in California.
"	George Perkins.	A. L. Post.	Fond-du-Lac, Wis.
"	Charles Kellum.	F. Lusk	Removed to Sycamore, Ill.
1844,	George Baldwin.	Attorney from N. Y.	Great Bend.
1845, Aug. 19	Naham Newton.	Bentley & Richards.	Dead.
1847, Apr. 19	Galusha A. Grow.	Little & Streeter.	Speaker 37th Congress. Representative 12 years.
1847, Aug. 16	John H. McKune.	B. S. Bentley.	Pres. Judge in California.
1847, Nov. 15	E. Henry Little.	Attorney from Wayne.	Here a short time. Removed to Illinois.
1848, Apr. 17	Owen B. Tyler.	R. B. Little.	Died in California.

LIST OF STUDENTS AND RESIDENT LAWYERS.—*Continued.*

WHEN ADM'D	NAMES.	WITH WHOM STUDIED.	REMARKS.
1848, Aug. 21	La Fayette Fitch.	B. S. Bentley.	State Senator, 1871.
"	Homer H. Frazier.	"	Ed. <i>Independent Republican</i>
"	John C. Truesdell.	R. B. Little.	
1849, Aug. 20	Philo C. Gritman.		Dundaff.
1849, Aug. 21	John C. Fish.		District Attorney, 1852. Gt. Bend. Farmer.
1850, Aug. 19	Ezra B. Chase.	F. B. Streeter.	State Representative, 1852-3.
"	John C. Miller.	Wm. Jessup.	Died at the West.
"	Martin L. Truesdell.	B. S. Bentley.	Liberty. Farmer.
1851, Jan. 22	Simeon B. Chase.	F. B. Streeter.	Rem. to G. Bend & N. Milford
1851, Nov. 17	William H. Jessup.	Wm. Jessup.	
"	William H. Cooper.	"	Banker.
"	Leonard B. Hinds.		Rem. to Susquehanna Depot.
"	Lucius Robinson, Jr.	F. B. Streeter.	
"	G. Clark Lyman.	B. S. Bentley.	
1852, Aug. 16	Andrew J. Davis.	E. B. Chase.	
1854, Jan. 16	Frederick A. Case.	B. T. Case.	
1855, Aug. 20	Urial C. Johnson.	W. J. Turrell.	Removed.
"	J. Brewster McCollum.	R. B. Little.	
1855, Nov. 19	C. Judson Richardson.	Jessups.	Chicago.
1855, Nov. 20	Albert Bushnell.	B. S. Bentley.	Died Feb. 1861, at Susq. Dep.
1856, Apr. 7	Wm. M. Post.	R. B. Little.	Rem. to Susquehanna Depot.
1857, Aug. 17	H. L. Emmons.	Jessups.	
1857, Nov. 16	C. A. Lyman.	S. B. Chase.	Dealer in marble. Montrose.
1858, Aug. 16	Ira Vadakin.	Attorney from Wayne.	Removed.
1859, Aug. 15	Truman L. Case.	Jessups.	Removed to Scranton.
1859, Nov. 21	Alfred Hand.	"	District Attorney, 1865-71.
"	Daniel W. Searle.	"	
"	Orlando C. Tiffany.	"	
"	Wm. D. Lusk.	Little & Post, Sam'l Sherrod.	Removed to Scranton.
1859, Aug. 20	F. E. Loomis.	Jessups.	"
"	B. S. Bentley, Jr.	Bentley & Fitch.	"
"	Milo J. Wilson.	R. B. Little.	
"	Rienzi Streeter.	F. B. Streeter.	In Colorado.
"	Casper W. Tyler.	"	Ed'r in Meadville.
1860,	David A. Baldwin.	Attorney from N. Y.	Great Bend. Dead.
1862, Jan. 20	Isaac J. Post.	Jessups.	Removed to Scranton.
1862, Aug. 11	E. W. Smith.	J. B. McCollum.	
1862, Aug. 22	A. O. Warren.	F. B. Streeter.	
"	U. F. Hollenback.	Bentley & Fitch.	
1862, Aug. 25	L. M. Bunnell.	R. B. Little.	
1863, Apr. 6	Wm. A. House.	"	Rep. From New Jersey.
"	George P. Little.	"	
1863, Nov. 25	Edwin M. Turner.	Attorney from Wyoming.	Prothonotary. Removed.
1865, Apr. 3	James Edward Carmalt.	Lew School, Cambridge, F. B. Streeter, and Jessups.	Elected District Attorney, October, 1871.
1866, Aug. 13	Jonathan J. Wright.	Bentley & Fitch.	Colored. Delegate to Con'l Convention. Judge of Supreme Ct. S. Car. First colored man admitted to practice in Pennsylvania.
1866, Nov. 12	William H. Frink.	A. Chamberlin.	
"	Aaron Watson Bertholf.	Bentley, Fitch & Bentley.	
1868, Apr. 17	Thomas H. B. Lyons.	J. B. McCollum.	Removed.
1868, Aug. 10	Charles L. Catlin.	Attorney from D. C.	
1868, Aug. 24	Monroe J. Larrabee.	W. J. Turrell.	Susquehanna Depot.
1868, Nov. 9	William A. Crossman.	F. B. Streeter.	Commissioners' clerk, 20 yrs.
"	Byron O. Camp.	J. B. McCollum.	
"	Willoughby W. Watson.	L. F. Fitch.	
"	Hunting C. Jessup.	Wm. H. Jessup.	
1869, Apr. 12	Charles A. Warren.	A. O. Warren.	
"	E. L. Blakeslee.	Michigan Union Law School, and Littles.	
1869, Aug. 9	Alex. H. McCollum.	J. B. McCollum.	
1869, Nov. 16	George H. Allen.	Attorney from Luzerne.	Harford.
1870, Apr. 27	Eugene B. Hawley.	Wm. D. Lusk.	Editor <i>Montrose Democrat</i> .
1870, Aug. 17	Benjamin L. Baldwin.	Jessups, Crossmon.	
1871, Aug. 15	Edgar A. Turrell.	Attorney N. Y. Sup. Court.	Removed to New York.
1871, Oct. 17	C. E. Baldwin.		Great Bend.
1872, Jan. 8	Stanley N. Mitchell.	Carmalt, Crossmon.	Removed.
"	J. Ferris Shoemaker.	Jessups, Crossmon.	
1872, Nov. 11	J. T. Richards.	Wm. A. Crossmon.	
"	Wilbur F. Lathrop.	Littles & Blakeslee.	

CHAPTER VII.

TOWNSHIP ANNALS.

GREAT BEND.


IN November, 1814, the township previously known as Willingborough received from the court the name of Great Bend on petition of several of its residents. It was then but a section of the original township, which, March, 1791, was formed from the northeast corner of old Tioga, Luzerne County, and which was the first taken from the two townships then comprising the territory afterwards set off to Susquehanna County.

Willingborough, in 1791, was so far from the seat of justice—Wilkes-Barre—that it appears to have received little attention for two years; the only record of it being the appointment of viewers to lay out a road within its limits. These seem not to have been actually defined until April, 1793, when the line was ordered thus:—

“From the twenty-first mile-stone on the north line of the State, south six miles; thence east until it shall intersect the line to be run between Luzerne and Northampton Counties; thence north to the State line; thence west to the place of beginning.”

This made the township six miles north and south, by fifteen miles east and west; but, practically, or as an election district, until the erection of New Milford, it extended over the area of the latter as originally defined, and, in all, covered one-quarter or more of the present county.

Perhaps no section of Susquehanna County has scenery more beautifully diversified than that included in old Willingborough—now Harmony, Oakland, and Great Bend. Here the Susquehanna River flows around the base of a spur of the Alleghanies, of which the lower outline is marked by a number of rounded peaks of great beauty; the higher, by the two mountains of the vicinity bearing their original Indian names—Ouaquaga,¹

¹ In reference to the correct orthography of this word, J. Du Bois, Esq., says: “There is now a post-office of this name on the north side of this mountain, near the village of Windsor, N. Y., and by reference to any post-office register you will find it written as above. When I was a child, I remember standing before the guide-post at the forks of the road a few rods beyond the three (Indian) apple trees, on which was a finger-board marked thus:  10 Ms. TO OUAQUAPHA, and of myself and other children puzzling our brains in trying to make out how those letters could make the then accepted pronunciation, Ochquago.

and Miantinomah.¹ It is regretted that the signification of these names cannot be given here, or that of the smooth flowing Canawacta, or more bubbling-voiced Starrucca—fitting streams to run among such hills as face Ouaquaga Mountain.

In one of the sketches of this vicinity recently published by Joseph Du Bois, Esq., of Great Bend, and kindly contributed to this compilation, he says:—

“Most of our hills were named after those first-settlers, who made improvements near their bases, as Trowbridge Hill, Wylie Hill, Strong Hill, Fish Hill, etc.

“The Indians once had beautiful names for them all; their foot-trail alone crossed these summits in search of the haunts of game; then the moose, the elk, the deer, grazed upon these hills, and were to the Indian hunter his main subsistence. Many a time did their tops blaze with the signal fires of the Indians as the enemy approached; and now how changed! The stately pines that once adorned their summits have fallen before the ax of the lumberman, and those larger animals that once roved in comparative security have either been exterminated, or have fled before the advance of civilization to more secure hiding places. Ascend our hills now, peep into those dark caves in those frowning ledges of rock—these were once the dens of the savage panther, the crafty and ravenous wolf, and the fierce and surly bear; these have all gone, and only the survivors of civilization remain. These caves are now the home of the wild cat, the fox, the raccoon, and the rabbit, and they will remain with us until our improvements reach these mountain tops.”

To the hills mentioned above, may be added Du Bois's Hill (from which the vicinity of Binghamton can be seen), Baker's Hill, between that and Strong Hill, and Rattlesnake Hill, across the Susquehanna. The latter is divided from Locust Hill by Newman's Creek, and from Trowbridge Hill by Trowbridge Creek. Denton Brook skirts the eastern base of Locust Hill, emptying into the Susquehanna at Taylortown. Between this place and Red Rock, Mitchell's Creek joins the river on the south side, and divides the unbroken wilderness of “Egypt” from another elevated forest, which terminates in Turkey Hill in Oakland. The creek received its name from a settler near its mouth prior to 1795.

The valley of the Salt Lick is rich in beauty and culture, and appears to be the only settled portion of the township south of the river, except in its immediate vicinity, and along Wylie Creek, near the western boundary. Wylie Hill is separated by the latter creek from Strong Hill, and on the north by Ives's (formerly Bates's) Creek, from Baptist Hill.

Following Wylie Creek from Liberty to Great Bend, the traveler on approaching the village is met by a landscape of

Whoever painted that finger-board must have been familiar with the Indian pronunciation, and spelled it as nearly as he could to represent it.”

¹ The name of a war-chief, and of an iron-clad steamer of our navy that was the flag-ship of the late Admiral Farragut on his recent visit to the East.

exquisite beauty, and hardly inferior to it is the view obtained in descending the Salt Lick.

A western gentleman, while recently passing over the Erie Railroad in the vicinity of Great Bend, exclaimed, "This equals the Sierra Nevada!"

There are no lakes in the township. There were formerly many willows on the banks of the Susquehanna, but the basket-makers have cut them down. Sarsaparilla, the white snake-root, and black cohosh, and a number of medicinal herbs, are common. This locality appears to have first attracted the notice of the white man during the Revolutionary War.

From a sketch prepared by Mr. Du Bois, we retain the following:—

"A part of General Sullivan's army, under command of General James Clinton, encamped on the banks of the Susquehanna at Great Bend in the summer of 1779. The Six Nations (with the exception of the Oneidas), incited by British Agents and British gold, joined the British and Tories of the Revolution, in their murderous assaults upon the border settlements. In order to check their attacks, General Sullivan, with a portion of his army, was sent up the Susquehanna by the way of Wyoming to the mouth of the Chemung River, where he awaited the arrival of General Clinton, who proceeded from Mohawk to the headwaters of the Susquehanna, and from thence down the river."

[Mr. DuBois had the pleasure of reading many years ago, the MS. diary of one of General Clinton's officers, and relies on his memory of its contents, in relating what follows.]

"When General Clinton arrived at the head of the river, Otsego Lake, he found the water very low, and the navigation of the Susquehanna, on rafts, as intended, impracticable. In order to raise the water, it was decided to build a dam at the foot of the lake, which some of the soldiers under the directions of the officers proceeded to do, while others were detailed to construct timber rafts below, upon which the army was to descend the river. When the dam was completed, the rafts being ready, and a sufficient quantity of water having accumulated in the lake, the flood-gates were opened, away sped the fleet of rafts, with their noble burden, amid the loud cheers of the soldiers.

"Very soon new troubles arose, for not one of these 1600 men knew anything about navigating the Susquehanna. The Indian canoe only had heretofore broken the stillness of its waters, consequently some of the many rafts were at almost every turn brought to a stand-still by the bars and shallows of the river. These "shipwrecks," as the soldiers called them, produced shouts of mirth and laughter from those who were more fortunate in drifting clear of the shoals; but, as the water was rapidly rising from the great supply in the lake above, these stranded rafts were soon afloat again, and very soon were passing some of those rafts which had first passed them, and from whose crews came shouts of derisive laughter, and now were stranded in like manner. Both officers and men enjoyed this novel campaign on rafts down the beautiful Susquehanna (to use the officer's word) "highly." He said that, notwithstanding they had to keep a sharp lookout for the "Red Skins," it did not in the least mar the great enjoyment of the sports of this rafting expedition; fishing, frolic, and fun were the order of the day. Nothing worthy of mention happened to the expedition on their way to this place, and here,

on a bright summer day, in 1779, they landed to pass the night, and to allow some of the dilatory rafts to come up, and here at Great Bend, on the Flats near the "Three Indian Apple Trees," General James Clinton's army encamped, and here for one night, at least, brightly burned the camp fires of 1600 of the soldiers of the Revolution. The officer in his diary says of the three Indian Apple Trees which they found here, that they then bore the marks of great age. There were no Indians seen here by them, although there was every indication of their having only recently left. The next day they went on board of their rafts and proceeded down the river.

Of the venerable trees mentioned above, only one is now standing, the second having fallen within a short time after the compiler visited the spot in the summer of 1869. The trunk was then entirely hollow, and a person might stand in it; but its decay had been gracefully concealed, in part, by a circle of trained morning-glories exhibiting a thoughtful care and touching reverence for a relic of the past, which is linked with "a race that has had no faithful historian."

THE PAINTED ROCKS.—About two miles above the village of Great Bend, the Susquehanna River is quite narrow, with high rocks on each side of the stream. It seems as if by some great convulsion of nature, a passage had been opened through the mountain of rock for the passage of the river, forming high precipices on each side of the stream. The Erie Railroad, by their improvement, have cut away the rock on the north side, thus destroying the original beauty of this once interesting spot. The top of the cliffs were once covered with trees and a thick undergrowth, and many a deer while fleeing before the hounds has unwittingly taken the fatal leap from the top of this precipice. And the wary fox, too, fleeing before the pursuing loud-mouthed beagles, has from these cliffs taken his last leap, being dashed upon the frozen river below.

This romantic locality was known to the early settlers as the Painted Rocks, from the fact, that, high upon the face of one of these cliffs, and far above the reach of man, was the painted figure of an Indian Chief. The outlines of this figure were plainly visible to the earliest white visitors of this valley; but long after the outlines had faded, the red, which predominated in this figure, still remained; this in after years caused the inhabitants not familiar with the early history to call the place "Red Rock," and by that name it is known to this day. As to how and when this once beautiful painting was made on these rocks, at a place, too, apparently inaccessible to man, has been the subject of much mystery and many conjectures, for this full-length portrait was evidently done by a skilful artist's hand, long before the whites had settled in these parts.¹

Before the settlement of Susquehanna County, according to a statement in 'Wilkinson's Annals of Binghamton,' "a purchase was made of the Susquehanna valley from the Great Bend to Tioga Point, by five gentlemen of Philadelphia, viz., Messrs. Thomas, Bingham, Hooper, Wilson, and Cox. Thomas's patent embraced the Bend, and extended six miles down the river; then Bingham's patent, extending from Thomas's western line to two or three miles beyond the village of Bingham-

¹ By J. Du Bois, Esq.

ton, two miles wide, lying equally on both sides of the river." No account of the Thomas patent can be found at Harrisburg.

Mr. Wilkinson adds, that when Joshua and William Whitney came, in 1787, to the valley of the Chenango, near its junction with the Susquehanna River, they found two or three families living at Great Bend.¹ These were doubtless the Stronges at the west bend, the Comstocks at the east bend (now Harmony), and the Bucks between them at Red Rock. At least these families *might* have been found there, in the fall of 1787. It is known that the first two families preceded the last named, though it is not positively stated which one of the two was first in the vicinity; but Ozias Strong, formerly of Lee, Mass., was the first settler, so far as can now be ascertained, within the limits of the present town of Great Bend, and the first resident purchaser of land under Pennsylvania title.

Besides the above, the only settlers now known to have been here, in 1788, were Enoch Merryman and wife, and their son Bishop and his wife; Nathaniel Gates and wife with five children, and three sons-in-law—Jedediah Adams, David Lilly, and William Coggsell, with their wives; Jonathan Bennett (in Oakland first) with his sons Jonathan and James, and his sons-in-law, Asa Adams and Stephen Murch, with Thomas Bates and Simeon Wylie, sons-in-law of Rev. Daniel Buck. All had families.

In 1789, John Baker, a native of Hatfield, Massachusetts, came to Great Bend, at the age of twenty-four, and soon after married Susanna, a daughter of Ozias Strong.

The public records of Luzerne County show, that Ozias Strong, June 9, 1790, bought of Tench Francis, for one hundred and thirty pounds sterling, four hundred and fifty-three acres of land north of the river, in the vicinity of the present Great Bend bridge. Two days later, Benajah Strong (possibly a brother of Ozias) bought, of the same landholder, six hundred and one acres, south of the river, on both sides of the mouth of the Salt Lick. This tract was sold by B. Strong, September 21, 1791, to Minna Du Bois and Seth Putnam, for seven hundred pounds sterling. Minna Du Bois was made attorney for his brother Abraham, of Philadelphia, June 23, 1791.

On the same day of Ozias Strong's purchase, Tench Francis gave deeds to other parties. Ichabod, Enoch, and Benjamin Buck bought of him one hundred acres for one hundred and twenty-five pounds.

¹ The village which soon clustered around the Whitneys was supplanted after a few years by the settlement at Chenango Point, now Binghamton. This was laid out into village lots in 1800. A saw-mill was erected in 1788, on Castle Creek, and a grist-mill, in 1790, on Fitch's Creek, in the town of Conklin. These were the first mills in all the region. See 'Annals of Binghamton.'

Elisha Leonard¹ had lands adjoining Ozias Strong's (which adjoined S. Murch's), and Edward Davis's also adjoined lands of E. Leonard's.

But few items have been preserved of the families who came to Great Bend before 1790. The Merrymans were here when Nathaniel Gates came. The latter had lived, previous to 1778, at Wyoming, though he was from home, engaged in his country's service, when the massacre took place. Mrs. Gates fled with others to the mountains, and finally reached Connecticut, with her seven children, where she was afterwards joined by her husband. One child being sick, during her flight, was carried by a neighbor; while Mrs. Gates carried another in her arms and one on her back—the rest were able to walk.

The family had lived in Wayne County before coming to Great Bend. Three children of N. Gates were drowned in the Susquehanna, but their bodies were recovered and buried at Great Bend, February 16, 1791.

Polly, daughter of Asa Adams, and two young men of the Strong family, and Samuel Murch, and his sister Polly, had been drowned, previously, in the same stream. [No name occurs more frequently among the early wives and sisters than Polly—always a synonym for Mary.]

Not far from this time, a son of Mr. Gates, who had been taken prisoner by the Indians while the family lived on the Delaware, escaped and reached Philadelphia where he learned the whereabouts of his parents. He came on *via* Mt. Pleasant, from which there were only marked trees to guide him, the snow being twelve inches deep. When within a hundred rods of a hunter's shanty, where Phinney's hotel now stands, in New Milford, his strength gave out. He was about to lie down in despair, when he saw the sparks from the shanty, which so revived him he was able to get there; but he could not speak, so badly was he frozen. He was able, at length, to tell where his friends were—about six miles distant; and the hunter, after two or three days, managed to notify them, when they took him home; but, for days, his life was despaired of.

James Parmeter may have been here as early as some of those previously mentioned, but was not here when the Bucks came.

"He built his 'log cabin' on the south side of the Susquehanna, near the south end of the present bridge across the river. For some time he sub-

¹ "Not many rods from the farm house of the late Abraham Du Bois, on the place formerly owned by Seelye and Daniel Trowbridge, there is a fine spring of fresh water, clear as a crystal, always flowing, never freezing in winter, but cold as ice-water. This spring, since my earliest recollections, has been called, and is well known to this day, as *Leonard's* spring. My father (A. Du Bois) told me it was named after an early settler; and I think the one named above."
J. D. B.

sisted by hunting and fishing. One of the first Connecticut settlers, who came into this county, and was on his way to a settlement not far south of Montrose, and who staid over night at his cabin, told me that his cabin was then completely covered with the skins of wild beasts, among which he saw those of the panther, bear, wolf, deer, and wildcats. As other settlers came into this valley and commenced to settle further west, he, from the necessity arising from his location, was transformed from a simple hunter into a hotel keeper and ferryman (1793); for these early pioneers would stop at his house, as it was the only one near, and he assisted them to cross the river. As it could not be forded, except at very low water, he was compelled to build a ferry boat, as his house could not hold these blockaded travelers, the travel having now greatly increased by settlements further west, even as far as the lake country."

John Baker bought a piece of wild land, went to work, and after he had nearly paid for it, found there was a mortgage on it for more than it was worth; he gave it up and bought another, and built a log cabin. He was prospered for a time, but one day as he and his wife were returning from work in the field they found their house and all its contents had been burned up; nothing was left except the clothes they had on. He sold his land and moved to Homer, New Jersey, in 1794. He had then three children. He came back to Great Bend to spend the following winter, and here, March 1795, his son, David J. Baker, was born. From him (now living at Dryden, N. Y., in his seventy-seventh year) we learn that his parents returned to Homer, in a canoe, as soon as the ice was out of the river, the same spring. His was the ninth family in the township (Homer) of ten miles square.

The 'Bellevue (O.) Gazette' of a recent date contained a biographical sketch of Mr. Baker, from which the following items are taken:—

"His parents died when he was quite young. He never went to school a day. At the age of eighteen he served six months in the Revolutionary army.

"At Great Bend he and his wife joined the Presbyterian Church, and remained consistent professors of religion all their lives. His wife taught him to read and write, and by his own efforts he acquired an education. He was a man of good natural ability, and fond of argument. Of the four sons and three daughters born to them here, three sons are still living; two at the west, and David in Dryden, N. Y. He was the first deacon of the church in this town."

Mr. D. J. Baker adds: "The Strongs all left Great Bend after my father did. My grandfather, Ozias Strong, had a family of six sons and six daughters, namely: Major Joseph, Horatio, Francis, Zadock, Peltiah and Abner. His daughters with their husbands' names were, Beulah Treet, Roxy Benedict, Hannah Gates, Susanna Baker, Polly Jones, and Lovina Todd. Peltiah was drowned in the Susquehanna River while his father lived at Great Bend; the rest of this large family lived to a good old age, and all but one of them had large families. When Horatio left the Bend, he settled in the valley of the Scioto River in Ohio, and had a family nearly as large as his father. When my grandfather, Ozias Strong, left the Bend, he, together with three of his sons (Francis, Zadock, and Abner, who were then unmarried) settled at South Cortland, which was then called Homer, on 350 acres of land. When Major Joseph Strong left the Bend, he settled in Manlius, Onondaga County, New

York, in 1812; he moved to Huron County, Ohio, in 1814; Zadock followed him in 1815; Francis Strong and my father, John Baker, who married Susanna Strong, followed them in 1816, and in 1825 or 1826 Abner and Aunt Todd, she being then a widow, followed; and all settled near each other in Ohio, on a ridge of land which is to this day called Strong's Ridge. Zadock Strong's marriage was the first marriage of the settlers of Homer, N. Y. He and his bride rode on horseback through the woods from Homer to Ludlowville, in Tompkins County, N. Y., a distance of thirty miles, to find the nearest person who was qualified to perform the marriage ceremony. Uncle David Jones, from Boston, who married Aunt Polly Strong, bought my grandfather's farm at South Cortland, and took care of the old people the last years of their lives. Capt. Benajah Strong moved to Lansingville, N. Y.

"I left Great Bend with my parents when an infant, but I remember of their speaking of Stephen Murch so frequently that it is to me like a household word."

The following sketch by J. Du Bois, Esq., is copied by permission from the 'Northern Pennsylvanian.'

"LATHROP ISLAND.—About one-third of a mile above the Great Bend Bridge, in the middle of the Susquehanna River, there was formerly a beautiful island, known as Lathrop Island, thus named from the fact that one Ralph Lathrop,¹ a very early settler, cleared it up and cultivated it. When the whites first came into this valley, this was quite a large island, some acres in extent, the surface being very level, and as high above water as the shore opposite. The early settlers said that a part of this island had been cleared by the Indians. Upon being questioned about it, the Indian Doctor told me that this island was a great resort for Indian fishing and hunting parties; in fact, the Indian picnic grounds. Here all the canoes for miles around, filled with the dusky sons of the forest, and their wives and little ones, came at stated periods to hunt, to fish, to feast, and to celebrate some of their games. One of their games was a boat race; this always took place soon after landing. Many strove for the honors; for he who paddled his canoe around the island and came to the starting-point first was immediately invested with all the honor and power of a chief, to last during the festivities or stay upon the island. The victor's word for the time being was law, and the entire proceedings of the party during the festivities were directed by him. Long after this valley was settled by the whites, this beautiful island was the favorite resort of the settlers and their children. Here they came in boats, with their wives and little ones, not forgetting cooking utensils, for our mothers and grandmothers were not content with 'cold victuals,' as the custom now is at picnics, but here, upon this almost enchanted spot, they cooked the tender venison and fresh fish provided by their husbands and sons, not forgetting to bring cakes and other good things.

"This island, except a fine cluster of large trees left at its head for its protection, and a fringe of beautiful shade trees around its border, was cleared. No such charming and inviting spot could be found in this vicinity, and it was the favorite for picnic parties for many years; now nothing remains of it but unsightly gravel bars. This once beautiful place of resort was destroyed by mischievous boys. The timber standing at the head of the island, and which had for ages protected it from destruction, was the receptacle of vast quantities of driftwood. These boys went upon the island one summer's day, in a dry time, and set this driftwood on fire, which destroyed the trees; and as soon as their roots decayed, this once beautiful place became an easy prey to the destructive ice floods of the Susquehanna; and this once charming spot, for pleasure parties and recreation, is lost to the citizens of this neighborhood for all time to come.

¹ Mr. Lathrop was a son-in-law of Priest Buck. He afterwards became insane.

"If any one wishes to satisfy himself as to this island being once the resort of the Indian fishermen, let him take a walk along the north shore of the river opposite, and he can, even now, find any number of the sinkers used by the red men. They fished with a hand line; a round or oval stone from two to three inches in length, and from one-half to three-quarters of an inch in thickness was selected, a notch was cut in each edge, around this the end of the main line was fastened, short lines and hooks were attached to the main line, after the hooks were baited, the sinker was thrown far out into deep water, and the line, to use a sailor's expression, 'hauled taut,' and the least motion on the short lines was conveyed to the hand of the fisherman with almost electric speed."

Incidents in the early history of the Susquehanna Valley are related by J. B. Buck, a son of Capt. Ichabod Buck, whose father was the Rev. Daniel Buck referred to below. (Most of these were contributed to the 'Susquehanna Journal,' published at Susquehanna Depot.)

"My great-grandfather, Eben Buck, was an Englishman; his son Daniel, my grandfather, was a Presbyterian minister, ordained in Connecticut, his native State. In early life he was engaged in the old French war, in which he distinguished himself, and rose to rank and high position. He was a self-made man, and a doctor as well as minister. In 1786, he left the valley of the Mohawk, near Albany, where he had resided some years, and brought his family with teams to Otsego Lake, crossed it and came down the river in canoes, seventy miles, to near where Windsor village now stands. Here he remained nearly two years, and then moved down to Red Rock. My father (the oldest son) and Uncle Benjamin were then married and had families. Father built his house just north of where the Erie Railroad passes through the tunnel, Uncle Benjamin just south of this place, and grandfather between them, on the line of the track over the tunnel. The old cellars are now to be seen.

"When my father came to Red Rock, it was all wild. But on examination some marks were found that could not be accounted for. The high rocks on the river were painted red, and on the island was found the foundation of a house. This was found quite plain when the land was cleared up and plowed, but it had been so long ago that it was grown up with trees. There for five years he had to pound the grain in a mortar to make flour and bread. There I was born, when but few whites were there, but hundreds of Indians often passed up and down. There were no roads—nothing but a path in the woods.

"After this time a mill was built at Tioga Point (now Athens), and we went with a canoe to mill—62 miles. About this time father subscribed for a paper published by Mr. Miner at Wilkes-Barre. It was about ten by twelve inches to the page. We took it two years, and then it was doubled, and it was enlarged again from time to time.

"My father was of steady habits, and possessed a strong, observing mind. After one year grandfather and Uncle Benjamin removed down the river a mile or two; the latter on the farm since known as Newman's, and the former on that one long owned and occupied by the Dimons, near the Bend bridge. Uncle Denton (Enoch) did not come in quite as soon as father; he located at Taylortown.

"Father and uncle had begun to farm, and families would often get in a strife; by agreement, when haying and harvesting were over, we would have a holiday. One day uncle took his oxen and cart and brought his family to father's, and all went on the hill for huckleberries. We filled all the pails, and then went to killing rattlesnakes. That afternoon we killed 411. It will be understood that in August the females go back to their dens to have their young. We killed 33 old ones, and the rest of the 411 were young ones.

"Here was found great abundance of wild animals of different kinds, and birds also. When out late at evening we were often followed by panthers, but never molested. At one time the wolves drove a deer upon the ice on the Susquehanna, not far from our house, and caught it. After devouring it, they had, a frolic. We had a horn made of a sea-shell. We ran out with the horn, and, after watching them at their play, sounded the horn. They stopped at once; then, catching the echo rather than the first sound, they ran directly towards us till about half way, when they stopped a moment, discovered their mistake, and then ran up the river for a mile for dear life. There were fifteen of them.

"I well remember the first wagon brought here. It was drawn by four oxen. Father bought the fore wheels, and uncle the hind ones. The tires were in six pieces for each wheel—spiked on. Brought from Boston by a Mr. Dorset."

"Fire was obtained either by flashing powder, or with the flint and steel. Friction matches were not invented for fifty years afterward. It was always expected that fire would be kept on every hearth. If by neglect the fire went out, it was common for families to send half a mile to a neighbor's for fire.

"The first house, and the one in which I was born, was built in an exceedingly primitive style. One huge log nearly made one side of the house, of which material the dwelling was built, for the mill-going saw 'these valleys and rocks had never heard.' The floor was made of strips, split, or halves of logs, flattened; the roof was covered with 'shakes,' four feet long; the beams overhead extended beyond the body of the house some five or six feet, making a stoop or piazza, from the roof of which, in autumn, used to hang the seed-corn for the ensuing year. The house was situated near a fine spring of water. Its furniture was not of the present-day style; the bedsteads, chairs, tables, and cooking utensils belonged to another age. We had no stoves, no carpets; we needed none. We had an immense fireplace, and the forest all around us. The day found us busy; the night gathered us around the broad stone hearth, glowing with a well-piled fire, where we recounted the hopes, adventures, and news of the day, in much the same manner as is done to-day, in well-regulated families.

"For years we had no other evening light than that from the blazing hearth-fire, pine-knots, or a candle. The only way we had for lighting a candle was by means of a sliver from the wood-pile, or by taking a live coal from the fire and blowing it with the breath until it glowed, and then placing the wick of the candle against it. This was not always immediately successful, and frequently caused the young housekeeper to blow until her cheeks were as red as roses. Especially was this frequently the case of Sunday evenings, when young gents were present. It was many years after the country was settled before whale-oil lamps were introduced, and until then our only resource for light was the fire, blazing, or the consumption of fat in some manner.

"Our food was mainly meat, from the forest; bread, vegetables, short-cakes, johnny-cakes, and buckwheat pancakes. We used to eat our venison cooked in various ways. A venison steak is epicurean, and reckoned among the best of backwoods dishes. Our bread was baked in a flat, shallow cast-iron kettle, set upon coals, with coals heaped upon the cover. Our biscuits were baked in a tin oven, shaped like a letter V, so arranged as to heat both the top and bottom of the biscuits. Our short-cakes were baked in a long-handled frying-pan, heated at the bottom with coals, and by the glowing fire at the top—and good cakes it makes, too—better than any of the new-fangled ovens of the present day. If the fireplace was well supplied with necessities, it had an iron crane, from which cooking utensils could be suspended at a greater or less height above the fire. The crane wanting, its place was supplied by some other device for suspending the pots—generally trammels—an exceedingly clumsy and inconvenient arrangement, by which vessels

used in cooking must be suspended from a pole, crossing the chimney high enough above the fire not to burn.

"Did the good housewife desire to get breakfast, she first filled the tea-kettle and hung it over the fire, or set it on fresh coals, drawn from the wood fire, on the hearth to boil; she then put her meat to frying in a spider, having legs about three inches long, by setting it on fresh coals; her potatoes, if boiled, were put in a pot and hung over the fire; if she desired pancakes, they were baked on a round griddle, suspended over the fire—when the griddle was hot enough, she swung out the crane and put on the batter; one side baked, the crane was swung out, the cakes turned, and again swung in; when done, again swung out, cakes removed, and another batch spread on."

"In those days, stores were few and distant. Powder and lead were among our most necessary articles, and these cost long journeys. For some years no store was nearer than Bainbridge, N. Y., then Windsor, and finally Great Bend—supplied by teams from Catskill. A man named Whittemore first began trading at Windsor; Bowes at the Bend. He built, about sixty-five years ago, the square house near the Presbyterian Church."

Shad were so numerous in early times, that they were sold for one cent each.

"A FISH STORY.—After planting, one year, the men thought they would have a play day. They agreed upon a fishing party, and were to drive the river. We first began at the island, by building a willow and brush fence, or net across the north side of the river, so as to stop the fish. The other side we had three horses mounted by boys, who rode back and forth, scaring the fish into our pen or net, between the island and opposite shore. A large party then proceeded up the river some three miles, and drove the fish down—floating before them a rude sort of brush net, in the water, so that it was really easier for the fish to run down stream than pass it. They came down the stream driving, splashing, swimming, and wading, and having a gay time, until they reached our pen or brush net; when we piled in brush and made a fence which it was difficult for the fish to pass. We then began throwing out the fish, and the great creatures would splash against our legs, and dash about in vain efforts to escape. We captured by this frolic eighteen hundred shad. Each boy and girl had five—each woman thirty, and the balance were divided equally among the men—of course they secured the lion's share. The whole ended with a real feast and frolic, with shad for meat instead of quails. The evening was joyous, and the entertainment bountiful, and the whole passed off with a zest and appetite which cannot be surpassed by our present efforts."

Another reminiscence of Mr. Buck's runs thus:—

"Wolves were exceedingly troublesome to the early settlers. They would enter the fold at night and kill sheep and lambs, and, sucking the blood and eating a portion of the flesh, would leave the flock ruined for the farmer's coming. In those days each family made its own cloth for all the various purposes. The clothing of the father, the mother, the sons, and the daughters, was the handiwork of the busy mother. The flesh was also a reliance for food; hence the loss of the sheep was a dire calamity for a farmer. The sheep had for many years to be yarded close by the house. The ducks, geese, and chickens also had to be protected at night."

Three or four brothers of Rev. Daniel Buck figured in the early history of Wyoming. Elijah (and possibly Asahel) was one of the first forty settlers of Kingston; William is mentioned in the old records of Westmoreland as a fence-viewer and grand juror, in 1774, and Capt. Aholiab Buck was one of nine cap-

tains slain the fatal afternoon of July 3, 1778. William, a son of Asabel Buck, was massacred the same day. An older brother of the four, Eben, had two sons, Elijah and William, the former of whom settled near Athens, Pa., as early probably as 1788.

"Priest" Buck, as the minister was generally styled, had seventeen children, ten of whom were those of his second wife; sixteen lived to have families. In addition to the sons already mentioned, who were of his first wife, there were Daniel, Israel, Silas, and Hiram. The majority of the family settled and died in the State of New York. Silas died in 1832, at Great Bend, where his widow still resides. Two of his sisters, Polly and Rachel, also died here. Enoch Denton died in Ohio; Israel, in Wyalusing, where some of his descendants reside. He had fifteen children.

Rev. Daniel Buck died at Great Bend, April 13, 1814. He had buried his first wife in Connecticut; his second wife died at Great Bend, September 6, 1828, and rests beside her husband in the cemetery near the Episcopal church.

Capt. Ichabod Buck was born in New Canaan, Connecticut. He died in Franklin, Susquehanna County, March 19, 1849. A recent writer says of him: "He was a Christian, and to him perhaps more than to any other man were the early settlers of Great Bend indebted for religious teaching, influence, and example." He had five sons: William died at Great Bend; John B., the author of several sketches given in these annals, is still living (February, 1872) at Susquehanna Depot; Benjamin died young; Elijah, living in Illinois, and Benjamin, in Michigan. His daughter Lucy, now dead, was born at Red Rock, April, 1791; and Deborah (Mrs. Lyman Smith, of Binghamton), March, 1793. The latter is the only survivor of the six daughters. Mrs. I. Buck died at Great Bend.

William Buck married a daughter of Oliver Trowbridge 1st; she was eight years old when her father came to Great Bend in 1796, and is still living in the same town.

Elijah and William, sons of Ichabod Buck, form the third set of brothers of these names in the Buck family: the first being the brothers of Rev. D. Buck, the next his nephews, and the third his grandchildren.

David Buck, who lived in 1807 on the north side of the Susquehanna River opposite Wright Chamberlin's, was not a near relation of this family.

Thomas Bates lived about a mile below the bridge on the south side of the river. He died here before 1820, much esteemed.

We insert here brief sketches of three of the early settlers of this section.

SIMEON WYLIE served his country through the war of the Revolution, having entered the service in the spring of 1776, at the age of eighteen years. He was early detached from the ranks as waiter to General Arnold, and served as such until the time of Arnold's defection, and was the principal witness to prove the identity of Major André, his visits to Arnold at his quarters at the Robinson house, and the manner of Arnold's escape. From that time, he served as a sergeant to the close of the war. He was in the battle of Long Island, and White Plains, in 1776, in the northern campaign, at the battle of Bennington, and at the capture of General Burgoyne in 1777. He was also in a preceding battle in which Arnold was wounded, and was in the battle of Monmouth in 1778.

In the confusion of the retreat from Long Island, on the evening after the battle, Sergeant Wylie was one of a party of seventeen (including a lieutenant), left in a piece of woods near the enemy. Not knowing in the dark what course to take, they agreed to wait until daylight, and then attempt to cross the East River or Sound. As soon as it was light they sent two of the party to search for a boat and give a signal to the detachment remaining in the woods. Upon hearing the signal the latter hurried to the shore, where they found a boat which had been drawn upon the beach, and, while pushing it with some difficulty into the water, they saw a party of "red coats" passing. They however succeeded in launching the boat and took to the oars. The enemy being near discovered them, ordered them to "halt" and surrender, or they would fire upon them. Disregarding the threat they pushed on, and the enemy fired and continued to fire until the boat reached the New York shore, and so well was their aim taken that every man except the lieutenant and Sergeant Wylie was either killed or wounded. The killed were buried with the honors of war, and the wounded taken to the hospital in New York. Some forty years after, a crippled pensioner traveling through this part of the country stopped for the night with Mr. Wylie. In the course of the evening he spoke of the Revolution and the cause of his lameness. He proved to be one of the seventeen. He remained with Mr. Wylie through the winter and taught school. Sergeant Wylie was a brave man and a good soldier. This bloody transaction, with many other revolutionary reminiscences, he was accustomed to narrate with thrilling effect.

In the spring of 1835, he buried his wife (a daughter of Rev. D. Buck), with whom he had lived forty-nine years. She had resided forty-three years on the farm where she died, and had been a member of the Presbyterian Church eighteen years. He died suddenly while on a journey into the State of New York to visit one of his sons, September 14, 1836, aged seventy-eight years.

JONATHAN DIMON was a native of Fairfield County, Conn. In his minority he served several years as a soldier in the army of the Revolution. A few years after the war he moved with his family to Willingborough, in the spring of 1791. He purchased a farm of Ozias Strong, and followed farming for the remainder of his days. His success was such, he was able, to a considerable extent, to supply provisions to the Wyoming settlers.

He was the third postmaster at Great Bend, for several years from 1813. He was a man possessing intelligence, energy, integrity, and influence, and who exercised hospitality almost to a fault. He was an opponent to immorality, intemperance, and Sabbath desecration; a supporter of educational and religious institutions. He died suddenly June 8, 1821, aged sixty years, greatly lamented, and was followed to the grave by a larger number of persons than had ever before been seen at the Bend on such an occasion. His widow, Mrs. Abigail D., and the mother of his ten children, was a member of the Baptist Church many years. Her children were all living at the time of her death in November, 1834.

CHARLES DIMON, son of Jonathan, was six years old when his father settled at Willingborough. He was educated at the common schools, which were then taught by competent teachers. At a suitable age he commenced work-

ing on the farm with his father, and pursued the same occupation through life.

January, 1810, on the resignation of Dr. E. Parker, he was appointed the second postmaster at Great Bend, which office he held until March 2, 1813, when he was appointed justice of the peace, by the Governor of Pennsylvania. April 23, 1823, he voluntarily resigned his commission for the purpose of pursuing his favorite occupation of agriculture.

About nine years afterwards the people, without his knowledge, sent a petition to the governor to have him reappointed, which was done; his second commission being dated December 3, 1832, and which he reluctantly accepted. He was twice elected under the amended constitution, and commissioned, viz., March 17, 1840, and March 18, 1845. His fourth commission terminated March, 1850, when he absolutely refused another election. He discharged the duties of a magistrate with ability and with general satisfaction, having acquired a good knowledge of the laws relating to his office. He had the reputation of being as reliable a justice as any in the county, and his decisions were respected.

He was a man of strict morality, inflexible in his opposition to vice in every form, both by precept and example—a true son of his father—always aiming at right, and opposing wrong and deception. He had a controlling influence in the community, and bore the reputation of an honest, Christian man, to tomb. He was friendly and courteous; always extending the hand of friendship to all deserving persons; hospitable, and ready to assist the unfortunate, using his influence for religion which he professed to have experienced, and always endeavored to sustain the best interests of the country in her civil, literary, religious, and political institutions. He was never married. To relatives, friends, and society the loss of such a man was a calamity. He died at the Bend, August, 22, 1864, aged seventy-nine years.

Dr. Fobes, the first regular physician of the place, was here in 1791. Robert Corbett, though then where New Milford village is, was a taxable of Willingborough. A Mr. Worden, early in the nineties, was near the present line of Oakland.

“As early as 1791, the settlers of Mt. Pleasant began opening a road to Great Bend. It left the north and south road nearly opposite Mr. Stanton’s house (in Mt. P.), and proceeded westward, varying from half a mile to a mile south of the Great Bend and Coahecton turnpike, which has taken its place.” (Rev. S. Whaley.)

Before November, 1792, the settlement must have largely increased, as a road which had been laid out on petition of Lewis Maffet and others—William Forsyth among the viewers—was opposed by a remonstrance sent to the court and signed by “Orasha” Strong and fifteen others. The first report made the road “begin at a stake about three rods above a place called the Three Apple Trees, and run northwesterly to the State line.” The court granted a review of the road by different men, among whom Asaph Corbett, then in New Milford, and Asahel Gregory, in what is now Herrick, must have been disinterested parties. They made the road begin opposite James Parmeter’s, at a stake in the north bank of the river.

Messrs. Bennett, Parmeter, Strong, Leonard, Asa Adams, and Isaac Hale (the last in what is now Oakland), viewed and laid

out two other roads that season; the first, "beginning at a hemlock stump, opposite Seth Putnam's saw-mill, northerly (W. E. W.) to the south bank of the Susquehanna River, then N. E. to the north bank of said river, then up said river intersecting the road first laid out;" the other appears to have connected these with the house of Benjamin Buck, one mile above Ozias Strong's.

In 1793, the court appointed Ichabod Buck, constable; Horatio Strong and Jonathan Bennet, supervisors; and Elisha Leonard and Ichabod Buck, overseers of the poor. From this time the town rapidly increased in prosperity and influence.

November, 1795, Jonathan Newman, formerly of Pittston (was there in 1789), bought of Minna Du Bois land lying north of the river, above the ferry. Nathaniel Holdridge, the first settler of Herrick, must have been here then, as he was constable the following year.

In 1796, Oliver Trowbridge, called Major Trowbridge, came in. The same year Horatio Strong received a license to keep a tavern. He had only a log-house. This, it appears, was purchased by Oliver Trowbridge, who built, in 1797, a framed part to the house, an upper room of which was used by a Masonic Lodge; the walls of it were papered—the first instance of a papered room in the county. He was licensed in 1801. He had four sons—Noble, Lyman, Augustus, and Harry (the latter two died at the West)—and four daughters, of whom Mrs. Wm. Buck is the only one now living at Great Bend.

Noble Trowbridge (J. P.) in 1810 built the wing of the present large house occupied by his son Oliver, about one and a quarter miles from the State line. The old bar-room, kitchen, and dining-room of this once noted tavern are well preserved; also, the old sign of the Indian and his arrows, though it no longer invites the traveller to rest. Here were seen the old "tester" bedsteads, with blue and white linen hangings, such as some of us now cherish as the handiwork of our grandmothers.

From the porch, views of river, hills, and meadows of great beauty are obtained, and pleasure-seekers much frequent this locality. Trowbridge's Creek reaches the river just below.

Noble T. had six daughters and three sons—Oliver, Grant, and Henry (dead).

Lyman Trowbridge settled in the south part of the township near Salt Lick Creek. He had four daughters, and four sons—Amasa, Augustus (dead), Charles, and Lafayette.

Daniel and Seelye Trowbridge, who lived on the south or west side of the river, were sons of David, a brother of O. Trowbridge, 1st.

Henry Lord, originally from Maine, came from Dutchess

County, N. Y., in 1797, and settled about half a mile south of Great Bend. The place was afterwards occupied by Asahel Avery and Jonas Brush. He had eleven children, only two of whom—Mrs. Dr. Charles Fraser and Mrs. Charles Avery, of Montrose—remained in the county, when their father removed to Yates County, N. Y., after residing here about twelve years.

The same year, Jonathan Newman was constable, and Oliver Trowbridge and Samuel Hayden, supervisors. The year following, Sylvanus Hatch was constable, Samuel Blair and Henry Lord, poor-masters; Samuel Blair, assessor. (All these offices, it will be remembered, included then a supervision of all the territory now included in Great Bend, Oakland, Harmony, and New Milford, and Jackson, Thompson, and part of Ararat; but in the last three there was then no settler.)

Asa Eddy, afterwards first justice of the peace of the township, offered for sale, in 1798, "six valuable farms at and near Great Bend—indisputable titles given."

Facilities for travel increased. The road from Mt. Pleasant, projected in 1791, appears not to have been satisfactorily located; for, January, 1798, Messrs. Parmeter and Hatch, Dudley Holdridge (son of Nathaniel), David Summers, Joseph Potter, and Asahel Gregory, were appointed to view and lay out the road, which, after reaching the house of Daniel Leach, ran nearly north to the Salt Lick, then to R. Corbett's, then north six miles to the ferry at Great Bend. The report of the viewers was not presented and approved until the next year.

In November, 1798, J. Dimon petitioned for a road "beginning two miles from the ferry, and running up the river to a place called Harmony, and thence to the State line;" also, for "a road leading from the aforesaid road across to the line above mentioned, toward a place called Ouaquaga, in the State of New York." John Hilborn, Ichabod Buck, S. Blair, J. Dimon, Isaac Hale, and J. Newman, were appointed to lay out these roads.

During this year, a "post" was engaged to ride from Wilkes-Barre to Great Bend once a fortnight, for the delivery of papers. A road had been laid out to "the road on the waters of the Tunkhannock," in January previous. It will be remembered that, at this time, Harmony and Great Bend *as townships* had no existence.

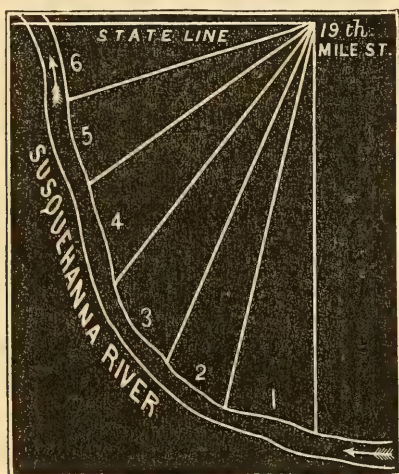
In 1799, Sylvanus Hatch was a licensed "taverner at Hatch's ferry," as the location was then frequently called. A part of the old log building is still standing across the road from where the three apple trees stood, on the farm of Ozias Strong. Mr. H. did not own the log tavern, but he afterwards purchased one of the fan-shaped farms (see diagram), and kept a promi-

nent hotel on it, below the present Methodist church. This building has recently been divided.

David Brownson was constable in 1799; Isaac Hoyt one of the supervisors, and Thomas Bates, freeholder.

Benjamin Gould was an early settler, on a part of N. Trowbridge's farm. Jonathan Dimon was one of six settlers whose farms converged at a point near the nineteenth mile-stone. Each farm had a river front, and all extended about two miles on the river, somewhat as shown by the diagram.

Fig. 10. THE "FAN" AT GREAT BEND.



The original Strong farm, on which Great Bend borough is located, may have extended over Nos. 1, 2, and 3; but No. 1, once occupied by Rev. D. Buck, became the farm of Jonathan and Charles Dimon; No. 2, once that of Horatio Strong, belonged successively to Josiah Stewart, William Thomson, Lowry Green, and W. S. Wolcott; No. 3, once that of Sylvanus Hatch, since owned by Truman Baldwin; No. 4, the Trowbridge farm, after O. Trowbridge left the tavern-stand of H. Strong; No. 5, the present Gillespie farm; No. 6, now owned by A. and D. Thomas, was once Samuel Blair's.

The first three, of course, have been much divided; but a daughter of Jonathan Dimon is still a resident of part of No. 1.

Sections of those owned by Hatch and Trowbridge once comprised the farm of Mrs. Andrew Johnston, the "first bride of the valley." She was the daughter of Garret Snedaker, who settled in Broome County, in 1794, and married Mr. Johnston, in September, 1796. He died in 1815, leaving her with six sons and one daughter. Mrs. J. related to the compiler, in 1869, her

surprise on coming here from New Jersey, when a girl, at the dress of people at meetings on the Sabbath. "One young woman wore a waistcoat (without sleeves) and a petticoat; the men wore leather coats and pantaloons." She lived in Great Bend, with her son, John B. Johnston, until her death, in ✓ January, 1870, in her ninety-third year.

In response to inquiries respecting Minna Du Bois, his grandson, J. B. D., says:—

"As near as I can learn, my ancestors of the name Du Bois left France at the time of the persecution of the Huguenots. They first fled to Germany, and afterwards came with the Germans to this country, and settled at or near Esopus, on the Hudson River.

"My great-grandfather, Abraham Du Bois, received his portion on the death of his father, and moved to New Jersey. He had three sons: Abraham, Nicholas, and Minna. My grandfather, Minna Du Bois, was the youngest of that family. He was a wild youth, ran away, shipped and went to France. This was just before the Revolution. In the war that was then going on between France and England, my grandfather Du Bois joined the French navy. The vessel to which he belonged was captured by the English, and he and the other prisoners were taken to England and kept as prisoners in the mountains of Wales, until the war was over. He then came home. His brother Abraham, a wealthy jeweller in Philadelphia, and a large land-owner, made him an agent and sent him to Great Bend, to take care of his landed estate in this section. Several tracts here bore the warrantee name of his son, Nicholas Du Bois.

"Minna Du Bois was twice married; Abraham was the son of his first wife; and Jane (Mrs. Lusk), an only daughter of his last wife. The house in which the latter was born now forms a part of the Lusk House,¹ at the south end of the bridge, where Minna Du Bois kept a public house for years, and here Benajah Strong had one before him; and Abraham Du Bois, his son, after him (1812). Mr. Du Bois died March 14, 1824, aged seventy years. His wife afterwards resided with her daughter in Montrose, where she died December 30, 1848, aged eighty years.

"Abraham Du Bois, Esq., married, in 1811, a daughter of Joseph Bowes (Julia), who was educated at the Moravian school in Bethlehem, Pa. Their sons were: Joseph (contributor to these 'Annals'), Nicholas, James C., and William, who died in Panama. Their daughters: Mrs. Rev. J. B. McCreary, dead, Mrs. Dr. Brooks, of Binghamton, Mrs. F. P. Catlin, of Wisconsin, Mrs. Hon. S. B. Chase, and Mrs. — Curtis, of Great Bend.

"Abraham D. died August 1, 1867, aged eighty-one years; and his wife died May 15, 1855, aged sixty-one."

"A TALK WITH AN INDIAN DOCTOR. By J. Du Bois.—Many years ago when I was a boy, a playmate of mine informed me that an Indian family had arrived at Great Bend, and had taken lodgings at the Log Tavern. Up to this time I had never seen an Indian, and my curiosity was greatly excited. I soon obtained leave of my parents to go and see the natives. I filled my pockets with knick-knacks for the young Indians, hoping thereby to gain the good-will of the older ones.

"In company with another boy (for I was afraid to go alone) we proceeded to that then far-famed hotel known as the Log Tavern, and there we found

¹ This place is one of the ancient landmarks. After Mr. Du Bois's death, Benjamin Taylor, — Langley, Ebenezer Brown, Sen., Benjamin Miller, and — Caldwell, were its proprietors. Mr. Chaffee was first proprietor of the Lusk House. James Parmeter's well is still to be seen, in front of the hotel, across the river-road.

an old Indian with a young squaw for a wife, and three children. The old Indian claimed to be a doctor. True, he did not bring with him innumerable 'manikins just imported from Paris,' neither did he come preceded by flaming posters, announcing free lectures, nor pay lectures. The Indian doctor came unheralded, driving his own horse and wagon containing his family. He was an intelligent-looking man, over six feet in height, weight over two hundred pounds. His hair, notwithstanding his age, was shining black, neatly braided, and hung down to the middle of his back in the form of a cue. His costume, in style, was not purely Indian, but he retained the leggings and moccasins of the red man. The only insignia of his profession, which he carried, was the 'medicine bag,' which was an otter skin, with the fur on. The doctor had already announced his intention of remaining with us two or three months, had tendered the landlord the coin for his board in advance, saying that his principal object in coming here was once more to visit the scenes of his early youth. Although he plainly announced the object of his visit, it was not long before many speculations and guesses were made by the curious among our citizens as to the real object of this Indian visit. Some of those observing ones had noticed that the 'medicine bag' was the receptacle of many articles not to be found in the *materia medica* of the white or red men, and from this fact, came to the conclusion that the title of doctor was merely assumed to hide his real object, which some said was to dig up and remove 'hidden treasures.' Others said, he had come to re-mark the localities of covered salt springs, or valuable mineral deposits. On being questioned as to his knowledge of these things, the doctor was very reticent; this only increased the curiosity of these speculators, and they even went so far as to offer to pay the Indian well if he would disclose to them this hidden wealth, which they plainly told him they were sure he could do if he would. At last the doctor yielded to the pressure, so far as to tell them that if they would count him out seven hundred dollars in coin, he would disclose to them something worth—to use the Indian's own language—much money. Now these speculators were more anxious than ever to know what it was, whether hidden treasures, salt springs, or mineral deposits, but to these questions the Indian was silent. Then they told him he had set his figures too high, and offered him one hundred, two hundred, and finally four hundred dollars; but all of these offers did not move the Indian. The doctor's movements were closely watched while he was here, some of these speculators thinking that they might gain by stealth what they failed to obtain by negotiation; but the Indian was too much for them in this. Almost daily he took his rifle and went out upon our hills, but never twice in the same direction, and although the woods at that time literally swarmed with game, the doctor seldom came home laden with the fruits of the chase. The doctor had his patients, too, and it is but just to say, that those that did apply to him were well satisfied that the Indian doctor was no humbug.

"The writer, anxious to learn something about the Indians that once lived in this valley, concluded to question the doctor. I again visited the Log Tavern. I found the doctor reclining on the grassy slope of the bank of the Susquehanna, near the Indian Apple Trees. Armed with a pipe and tobacco, I approached him and presented them, retreated to a respectable distance and sat down, and watched him as he drew forth the steel, the flint, and striking fire, proceeded to test the quality of the Indian weed. Boy like, I at once commenced to question him, and as he remained silent, I piled question upon question, without even waiting for an answer, not knowing at that time that an Indian never answered a question immediately, but first smokes, then thinks, and then answers. After almost exhausting my list of inquiries, I remained silent. The Indian, after puffing away at the pipe for some time, said, 'Boy want to know much, Indian tell him some. When a boy, I lived here, many Indians lived along this valley of the Susquehanna, we belonged to the Confederate Five Nations, afterwards called the Six Nations.' He then

proceeded to state in his own language that this valley was for a long time the frontier of the Confederacy. At that time the Delaware Indians claimed all the lands up to the Susquehanna River, at the same time the Confederacy claimed to the Delaware River, the land lying between these two rivers was disputed ground, and many were the conflicts between the hunters on this disputed territory. After a while, the Six Nations conquered the Delawares, and extended their authority as far south as the Chesapeake Bay. During the war of the Revolution, the Indians quietly withdrew from this valley, and all of them, except the Oneidas, joined the British and were nearly all exterminated in the battles which followed. Before the Revolution the Indians raised great crops of corn along these river flats.

"'All over yonder,' said he, pointing to the hills on the south side of the river, 'elk, elk, deer, too, plenty, very plenty, fish in this river very plenty, Indian lived well.' I asked the doctor where the Indians buried their dead; he pointed toward Dimon's flats, saying, 'there we bury our dead.' I then told the doctor, that when the workmen were excavating the ground for northern abutment of the first Great Bend Bridge, they discovered the skeleton of what they supposed to be a large Indian (as it was found in the sitting posture), I asked him how this Indian came to be buried there. After puffing away at the pipe as if in deep thought, he replied, 'The Delaware Indian, he die in his canoe, we bury him there.' I asked him by what death did he die, but received no answer. Not being willing to give it up so, I told the doctor that this Delaware Indian, as he called him, had a large hole in his skull, to which he replied, 'Delaware bad Indian.' Pursuing my inquiry in another direction, I asked him if a hostile Indian was detected as a spy, if by their laws it was death; he answered yes. And upon inquiring he said that they never bury those belonging to another tribe with their own dead. He further said that the 'Three Apple Trees' was the rallying point and headquarters for all the Indians in the neighborhood. Here councils were held, marriages celebrated, feasts observed, war-dances performed, and the fate of prisoners decided.

"At another visit the doctor said that he had greatly enjoyed his visit here in looking upon the hills and valleys where his youthful days were spent, and would soon return to his people in Canada, who were anxiously awaiting his return. When the doctor had ended his visit, many of his friends here met at the Long Tavern to bid him good-bye. The Indian doctor during his stay here made many friends, performed some remarkable cures, excited a good deal of curiosity, imparted much information about the former inhabitants of this valley, and with his family departed for his home in the Northwest, with the best wishes of his new-made acquaintances."

"AN INDIAN CLAIM.—Jonathan Dimon was one of the early white settlers of this valley. He settled on the farm now owned and occupied by Mr. Carl. When Jonathan Dimon left the valley of the Hudson River, and removed to this, then called wilderness, West, his son, Charles Dimon, had not completed his education, and did not come on to his father here, until some years later. A few days after his arrival, his father told him to go upon the flats and plow up an old 'Indian burying ground.' (This burying ground was located about the centre of the lately talked-of Fair Ground, and proposed Race Track, and on each side of what now remains of an old hedge.) More than thirty years ago, the writer had this narrative from our late and much esteemed fellow-townsmen, Charles Dimon. He said that he felt many misgivings about thus disturbing the burial place of the dead, and asked his father what he should do with those curious stones that marked the last resting-place of the Indians. His father told him that when he plowed up near enough to these stones to loosen them, to carefully take them up and pile them up by the fence. He said that with a heavy heart he proceeded to do as his father bade him, but would much rather have plowed elsewhere. After working awhile, his oxen needed rest; at this time he was very near

the bank of the river, and was sitting on his plowbeam with his back towards the river. He said that, in spite of himself, his thoughts would run on about the red men who once inhabited this valley. 'True, his father had told him that no Indians had been here for a long time, they had long since removed to other 'hunting grounds,' or had fallen in battle before the superior arms of the white man. He thought, and could not help thinking, what would be his fate if the Indians should happen to come along and find him plowing up the graves, and removing the stones that they had set up to mark the last resting-places of their 'fathers?' While these thoughts were troubling him, he heard a low guttural, yet musical sound, or combination of sounds, which came from the river behind him. It was different from anything that he had ever heard. He turned his face toward the river, a screen of willows partly hid from his view objects on the river nearest to him, and as these strange sounds came nearer, he peered through the bushes and—said he to the writer—'imagine, if you can, my feelings and surprise, when I tell you that I saw close to me a large canoe full of Indians, and this had barely passed the opening before another canoe full of Indians came in sight. I immediately unhitched the oxen and hurried out of that field, and away to the house. Being somewhat excited at what I had seen, I said to father, that I thought it very unsafe to plow in the Indian burying field while the Indians were about. Father told me to explain; I did, by telling him what I had seen. He told me to go down to the ferry, and see if the Indians landed. I went to the ferry, which then occupied the present site of the Great Bend Bridge across the Susquehanna River. And there, at the Log Tavern, which then stood on the site of the two-story house opposite to and near the toll house, I found the Indians, about twenty in number.' A crowd of the curious soon collected, and an 'inquisitive' Yankee soon learned from the Indian interpreter, that they had come to claim all that strip of land lying north of the Susquehanna River, and south of the forty-second parallel of latitude, declaring that they had never sold it, and that they wanted to meet the settlers and have a talk. This declaration of the interpreter caused the crowd to disperse in every direction to notify the settlers, and when these messengers told the settlers that a large party of Indians were at the Log Tavern, and claimed their lands, they too left their plows and wended their way to the Log Tavern, and as they came together on the way thither, they saluted each other after this manner, 'what now, what next?' here we have been trembling about our titles, Pennsylvania claims us, Connecticut claims us, and now, after all, here come the aborigines themselves, to claim our lands, and, if we should refuse, perhaps will take our scalps.

"By evening a number of settlers had collected, and, as they had no speaker among them, they chose one for the occasion; he was a kind of backwoods lawyer of those days (his name, as well as many other interesting incidents of this meeting, have, I am sorry to say, gone from the memory of the writer). Among those early settlers that were named as having attended this meeting, and were interested therein, I can only remember the following: Captain Ichabod Buck, Captain Jonathan Newman, Jonathan Dimon, Sylvanus Hatch, Josiah Stewart, David Buck, Noble Trowbridge, and James Newman. After all were seated in the old Log Tavern, the speaker for the settlers arose, and told the Indian interpreter that all were now ready to hear the talk of their chief.

"Many eyes were now turned toward the central figure of a group of noble looking Indians. But at this time some of the whites present were whispering to each other, and at the same time, wondering why the chief rose not. After a while the interpreter arose, and gave these inattentive whispering whites, a just and well-merited rebuke. 'Friends,' said he, 'I perceive that you do not understand the character of the red men, when assembled in council. No Indian will rise to speak, until there is perfect silence and attention, and there is nothing he more dislikes than a whispering, inattentive audience.'

After this rebuke from the interpreter, silence reigned. The chief, a man of great stature and noble bearing, soon arose, and spoke in the Indian dialect, which was well interpreted, sentence by sentence, in good English, and was, as near as the writer can remember, as follows: 'Friends and brothers, once our fathers had their wigwams on these beautiful banks of the Susquehanna; once they chased the elk, the deer, the bear, over the beautiful hills that surround us; once we had full possession of this valley, and no one disputed our right. Moon after moon rolled on, and our fathers left the valley for better hunting grounds, north and west, but before they left, 'good Father Onas, (William Penn) made a treaty with our fathers, by which they sold him a large piece of land, which is called after William Penn—Pennsylvania—he gave our fathers a copy of the treaty—large paper—which, I am sorry to say, is lost. Now our learned young men tell us, that in this treaty with good father Onas, the northern line of his purchase here was the Susquehanna River, and not the forty-second parallel of north latitude, as laid down on the 'paper pictures'—maps—of the whites. Now, brothers, we come to you as the representatives of our nation to claim this land. We believe we have never sold it. We come not to take it from you, but to sell it. Our good father Onas—William Penn—always dealt fair with the red man. We would never claim anything that was wrong of the children or friends of Onas if we knew it. When famine came upon the early friends of Onas, did not our fathers supply the wants of the starving friends of Onas, by hunting and fishing for them, and when bad hostile Indians troubled them, did not our fathers place the white feather of protection over the doors of their log wigwams. And while we acknowledge that bad Indians, many bad Indians, did take the king's money and fight with the king's men, our brothers will witness, and your history of the war will witness, that the nation, or that part of the nation that we represent—the Oneidas—never raised the war cry against our brothers. And now, if we have a good right to this land, we have great confidence in our friends, the children of our great and good father, William Penn, that they will do right and just by us. We wait your answer.'

"The speaker for the settlers, after a few words in an undertone with them, made a low bow to the chief, and to the other members of the delegation who sat on each side of their chief, in the form of a semicircle, said: 'Friends and brothers, we are pleased with the words of the noble chief who has so eloquently spoken. The settlers, who now surround me, have chosen me to answer the chief. They desire me to thank him, and the other braves who sit before us, for the kind and pacific manner in which their great chief has set forth their claim to this part of the land we occupy, and upon which we have built our wigwams. They also desire me to say, that they are not ignorant that those that you represent were always the friends of our good father, William Penn, and have always proved true to his friends, and shall always cherish in remembrance those kind offices of our red brethren in times past. And here, almost under the shade of the three 'Old Indian Apple Trees,' planted by your fathers, we pledge ourselves anew to our red brothers, that nothing arising out of your present claim shall mar the peace or lessen the friendship that has so long existed between us. We are very sorry, however, to inform you that our 'head man,' Judge William Thomson, is away on a long journey, and as to your rights to this land, we must confess that we are ignorant. We settled here holding the titles to our lands under the charter of William Penn, never doubting his knowledge as to the extent of his purchase of your fathers. When our 'head man' returns, and it should prove that our good father, and your good father, Onas, was mistaken, and that your fathers never parted with this land, we pledge ourselves, as the honest descendants of the good William Penn, to buy of you these lands, on which we have settled and built our wigwams. If our brothers will tarry with us until our 'head man' returns, which will be in eight or ten days, the hospitalities of this Log Tavern shall be yours, without cost to you, and in the mean time you can amuse

yourselves, perhaps, in hunting the deer on these beautiful hills, where once your fathers trod. And if our brothers desire it, we will join you in the chase. But if you cannot gratify us in this, but must sooner return to your own people, then we pledge ourselves again, that you shall hear from us when our head man returns.'

"The interpreter of the Indians, after consulting with the delegates, said, that, in behalf of his companions, he returned many thanks for the very kind answer, and for their pressing invitation to remain and enjoy the hospitalities of their friends; but,' said he, 'we are compelled to deny ourselves this great enjoyment. Business at the Council House of the Six Nations demands our return, where among our own people they would await a letter from our head man, and there would invoke their Great Spirit—your Great God—to shower blessings upon the head of the friends of William Penn.'

"The next day these Indians left for their homes in Northern New York. When Judge Thomson returned, the settlers soon acquainted him with this new claim to their lands. Judge Thomson sent to the capital of the State, for a certified copy of William Penn's treaty with the Indians. In due time the Judge received a fac-simile copy of said treaty, and many of our citizens of that day had the pleasure of seeing and examining this copy of Penn's treaty with the Indians, before the Judge forwarded the same to the Council House of the Six Nations. This copy was described to the writer, as a great curiosity. The names of all the chiefs were plainly written out, and at the termination of each name was the sign manual or mark of the chief; at the end of one name was a bow, another an arrow, another a bow and arrow crossed, another deers' horns, another a deer's head and horns, another the form of a new moon, etc. etc., each name having a different mark representing their implements of war, hunting, game, trophies, etc.

"This treaty plainly fixed the northern boundary of our State on the forty-second parallel of north latitude, thus dissipating the fears of the settlers. This copy of Penn's treaty, Judge Thomson forwarded to the address left by the Indians, since which time, neither our fathers, nor we of the second or third generation, have heard anything more about the Indians' claim to these lands."

Almon Munson, a carpenter, came May, 1800. The next year he brought food for his family from Tioga Point, in a canoe.

In 1800 Major Trowbridge was Collector of State Revenue for Wheelingboro' and "Nine Partners."

About this time Oliver Trowbridge and others petitioned for "a road from the plantation of Ichabod Buck (at Red Rock), extending up the river to the north line of the State," and also, one "from the north line, on the *east* side of the Susquehanna, down the same to Abner Comstock's to a fording, thence across the river, to intersect the first mentioned road, near the plantation of William Smith." Simeon Wylie and David Brownson were the viewers.

In 1801, still another road, or marked path at least, was gained, "from the north line of the State near the seventeenth mile-stone, down to the road that leads from Great Bend to Harmony."

The taxables of "Wheelingboro'" this year were ninety, and the amount of tax, \$810.59; David Brownson, Assessor; S. Blair and S. Hatch, assistants. (The compiler cannot explain the fact that the tax, in 1803, was but \$70.)

There were then three slaves in the town : one was owned by Jonathan Dimon, another by David Barnum, and a third by Anna Newman.

There were two "Phesitions"—Noah Kincaid and Asa Cornwell.

The innkeepers were: David Summers, Robert Corbett, James Parmeter, and Sylvanus Hatch. Each of the latter two owned half a ferry.

Jonathan Cunningham had a ferry opposite the present Trow-bridge farm. It was called "the lower ferry." Mr. Du Bois says of this:—

"James Parmeter's ferry having become very profitable, another pioneer built a house on the opposite side of the river; and he too built a ferry boat, and opened an opposition ferry. As the road through here was fast becoming a great thoroughfare, both of these ferrymen made money. In the winter season, they found it difficult to cross with boats, owing to the floating ice in the middle of the river. As the country along the Susquehanna was mostly a wilderness, our river did not freeze entirely over as readily as now. Strong ice would form along each shore for four or five rods in width, the middle of the stream remaining for a long time open. These ferrymen would then proceed to build an ice bridge after this manner: After measuring the distance from the solid ice on each side of the river, they would commence immediately above, and laying out the width and length they would saw out of the solid shore ice a bridge, and, holding fast one end, would swing the other end across the open chasm till it rested against the solid ice on the other side; then by dipping water from the river in freezing weather they soon formed a strong and safe bridge for teams to pass, the travellers freely paying toll for crossing this ice bridge. This ferry was kept up until the fall of 1814, when the first Great Bend Bridge was completed."

The "merchants" on the tax list for 1801 were D. Barnum (not here three years later) and S. Hatch; the blacksmiths, Philo Clemons and Jonathan Newman; cordwainer, Abner Eddy. William Campbell, Joel Hull, and Eli Nichols appear as new taxables.

Tench Francis, landholder, was taxed for 13,158 acres. Unimproved land was valued at fifty cents per acre.

The sum of one hundred and fifty dollars was drawn from the county treasury for the erection of bridges over the large creeks of this town.

Asa Eddy was justice of the peace when all Luzerne County, then including Susquehanna, Bradford, and Wyoming, besides the most of its present territory, had but ten justices. His jurisdiction extended over more than half of what is now Susquehanna County, as it was composed of Nicholson, Willingborough, and Lawsville, in their original extent. The whole number of taxables in his district was two hundred and eighty-six.

Rush, as a justice's district, containing one hundred and three taxables, occupied the remaining part of our territory

(Isaac Hancock, J. P.), with the exception of a fraction of Braintrim.

In 1802, a road was viewed from the settlement near the mouth of the Snake Creek to Great Bend, four miles. Timothy Pickering, Jr., was one of the viewers of another road in Willingborough about the same time. No portion of the county, at this period, was so well provided with roads, such as they were, and still the river was the great highway.

Ichabod Buck, Rufus Lines, and Hezekiah Leach, were appointed supervisors of this district in 1803.

Jason Wilson, early in the century, was located near the east line of Liberty. Jotham French was here in 1804. At the same time, Marmaduke Salsbury lived on the south side of the Susquehanna River, at the mouth of Mitchell's Creek. He afterwards moved to Harmony, now Susquehanna Depot. C. Longstreet had come from New Milford to the ferry-house. Elections were held here. The total vote for Congressman, in 1804, was one hundred and thirty-nine. In 1805, orders drawn on the treasurer of Luzerne, by the supervisors of Willingboro', amounted to one hundred and seventy-nine dollars.

In 1806, Nicholson was made a separate district; Willingborough and Lawsville were still in one. Hitherto, great indefiniteness appears to have existed in Wilkes-Barre, as to the locality of persons in either of these sections, persons in Great Bend being placed in Nicholson, and *vice versa*. Wilkes-Barre post-office received letters for persons at Great Bend.

New Milford township was erected, August, 1807, and then the taxables of Willingborough were reduced to thirty-one, though still including those of Harmony and Oakland.

It is just possible Wm. Preston, a taxable of 1801, was on the Strong farm, after Sylvanus Hatch, and before Josiah Stewart, but it is certain the latter had occupied it prior to 1807. An advertisement appeared in the Luzerne 'Federalist,' in April of the same year, which runs thus:—

"To be sold, a valuable plantation at the Great Bend of the Susquehanna, by Josiah Stewart. The public ferry appertains to the farm, which has also an orchard of two hundred bearing trees. The turnpike from Newburgh crosses to the State line."

From the Bend, Mr. Stewart moved to where McKinney's Mills are; then to Snake Creek, within half a mile of the State line, where he built and run a saw-mill, then returned to Great Bend, and afterwards to Windsor. Elections were held at his house after the organization of Susquehanna County.

In connection with a sketch of Josiah Stewart, given by Mr. Du Bois, his remarks respecting the ancestors of Mr. S., at Wyoming, though a digression here, may be allowed as a part

of the history of the county with which our settlers were still connected in 1807.

"Among those that left Forty Fort, on the morning of the great battle and massacre, were Captain Lazarus Stewart and his son Lieut. Lazarus Stewart, Jr. Captain Stewart had often before led the settlers against their Pennamite foes, in their murderous raids against the Connecticut settlers, and was fitly chosen to command a company, in this their day of trial. His son Lieut. Lazarus Stewart, Jr., also, as lieutenant, commanded a company; both were slain fighting bravely at the head of their men, and terrible indeed was that fearful struggle. That noble band of heroes, numbering three hundred, fought not only for their own lives, but for the lives and safety of their wives and dear ones who had fled to the forts for safety, and were now trembling with fear lest the tide of battle should turn against their only protectors. But these brave men were doomed; they were greatly outnumbered, out-flanked, and surrounded, and an indiscriminate massacre followed. The Indians were stimulated by promises of gold and plunder to deeds of terrible cruelty. Few families in the valley suffered more than the Stewarts on that bloody day. Josiah Stewart, a son of Lieut. Lazarus Stewart, Jr., and a grandson of Captain Lazarus Stewart, too young to engage in the terrible strife of that fearful day, escaped the slaughter that followed, and afterwards settled on the Susquehanna River, at Great Bend, and at one time owned and occupied what was afterwards known as the "Thomson Farm," upon which Great Bend Borough is now located. Josiah Stewart came here at an early day, and although not wealthy, was an enterprising citizen, had something to do in building, and at one time owned our first grist-mill, and built one of the first saw-mills in the neighborhood. His family consisted of his wife, and three sons—Lazarus, the eldest (named after his grandfather, Captain Lazarus Stewart, who fell in the Wyoming massacre), Charles, and Espy. His daughters were Hannah, Pattie, Betsey, and Frances. Mr. Stewart believed in the education of the youth of our country, especially females. On them (he used to say), as teachers and mothers, the future welfare of our country depended; and, acting upon this belief, he gave his daughters as good an education as his means would warrant, and some of your readers will remember the days of log school-houses and slab-benches, and with what fidelity and perseverance, as school-teachers, Hannah, Pattie, Betsey, and Frances Stewart labored to educate the children of the early settlers. As to his sons, Mr. Stewart used to say that they must get along through the world with less education, as they, in all probability, as pioneers, would have to rough it, as he and his father had done. This saying, as to his sons, proved prophetic. Lazarus, the eldest, not finding a place on this continent that suited him to settle upon, took to the sea. Charles, after living in the neighborhood several years, moved to the West as a pioneer. Espy, the youngest son, following the tide of emigration westward, never rested until from the western slope of the Rocky Mountains he saw before him that great barrier to further western progress, the Pacific Ocean. He settled in California.

"Josiah Stewart had one peculiarity which the writer never noticed in any other person, that of sleeping in a standing position. If he could touch one shoulder to a tree, or to the wall of a room, he would sleep as soundly in an upright position, as if reclining upon a bed of down. Perhaps he acquired this habit from standing sentinel in Wyoming Valley, in those troublous times, and watching the Pennamites on the one hand, and the Indians on the other, while the older and more able-bodied members were laboring in the fields; for it is a well-known fact that in those days, those that were not old enough to labor were thus posted as sentinels, to give warning of the approach of their enemies. Young Stewart thus stood and watched hour

after hour, until exhausted nature sought repose in balmy sleep; and yet he kept his position of apparent watchfulness.

"Mr. Stewart lived to a good old age. His life was a life of usefulness as a citizen, and as a pioneer he labored hard to smooth the way for those who should come after him. He died in the adjoining town of Windsor, N. Y., at the residence of his son, Charles Stewart."

In 1807, William Thomson, afterwards an associate judge of Susquehanna County for many years, came to Great Bend and purchased the farm advertised by Josiah Stewart, the oldest cultivated farm in the township. He was a native of Scotland. He filled several important offices, the duties of which he performed with ability and fidelity. He had a large estate which he had accumulated by industry and economy, and which he bequeathed to needy friends. He died January 30, 1842, in his seventy-eighth year. His house formed a wing of the National Hotel, which was burned December 13, 1869.

Samuel Blair, Alexander McDonald, Daniel and Harvey Curtis, Thomas Newell, James Clark (one mile south of the village), Moses Foster (three miles ditto), James Gould, Morris Jackson, David Buck, and Charles Fraser were all here before November, 1807.

Dr. Charles Fraser, a native of Connecticut, came to Great Bend from Sangerfield, Oneida County, N. Y. With but temporary absence, he resided at Great Bend, as a practicing physician, until the fall of 1812. Being then elected to fill the offices of prothonotary, register and recorder, he removed to Montrose.

Previous to 1807 Joseph Bowes, an Englishman, came to Great Bend, and erected a large house (dwelling and store) on the south bank of the Susquehanna River, the present residence of Dr. E. Patrick. It has been used as a church and a seminary, and is rich in local historical associations.¹

Dr. Eleazar Parker came to Great Bend August, 1807. He was commissioned, February, 1808, the first postmaster in Susquehanna County. (See Physicians.)

J. J. Way was a taxable of 1807.

Asahel Avery, Sr., and family came from their farm (now Woodbourne) and located one-half mile south of the ferry.

¹ The residence of Dr. E. Patrick was burned on the night of the 9th December, 1869. It had not been occupied for some time, and the origin of the fire could not have been accidental. This time-honored building, erected in 1805, was so substantially built that it still retained its "youthful appearance"—and together with the beautiful grounds and shrubbery by which it was surrounded, made it an ornament to the village. Many persons will remember it as the residence of Mrs. Jane A. Lusk, formerly of Montrose, whose noble life and character are still as fresh and green as the evergreens that cover her tomb, in sight of the smouldering ashes of her hospitable home—made beautiful and attractive by her own hands. After this house had ceased to be used for school purposes, it stood empty a long time until the Erie Railroad was constructing, when Nicholas Du Bois occupied it.

November, 1808, Dr. R. H. Rose petitioned for a road from Silver Lake to Great Bend, which was granted June, 1809. In the mean time he had purchased of the Francis estate lands extending from the river to the State line, and also west and south of the river, in the vicinity of Great Bend. He laid out the latter in village lots, and in accordance with his wish, the road following the river for a short distance from the Bowes mansion was vacated.

Captain Benjamin Case removed from Newburgh, N. Y., with his family, in 1808, to Great Bend. After a few years he removed to Warren, Pa., where, "as one of the pioneers of this then remote section, he pitched his tent, and aided in the work of civilization and progress, and where, after a life of honor and usefulness, he was gathered to his fathers." His son, Benjamin T., married in Warren, and, in 1816, removed to Montrose.

Mr. Joseph Backus, now of Bridgewater, says of himself in 1809:—

"Being then a lad of seventeen, I was wending my way from the land of steady habits, in company with Captain Gifford, who was on his way hither to visit his friends, who had previously emigrated to this then uncultivated wilderness. Having reached Great Bend, crossed the river, and stopped to feed at Du Bois's Hotel, while we were waiting for the team to feed, a company from Bridgewater came out there for the purpose of trading with Mr. Bowes, the merchant—quite a common occurrence in those days, there being then only one small mercantile establishment where Montrose now stands, kept by Isaac Post, on the very spot where Koon now keeps. I believe he also kept public house, and I think that that and one other house were the only tenements where Montrose now stands. This company proved to be some of the very friends the captain was coming to visit, so you can imagine the pleasure of meeting; and they manifested it by postponing their return, crossed the river to Hatch's, took dinner, spent the afternoon right merrily, and were ready to start home about sundown; a bitter cold night, snow about three feet deep. Of course we had to occasionally warm, first at Barnum's, then at Dr. Cornell's grandfather's, on the farm now owned by C. D. Lathrop, in Bridgewater; no inconvenience in those days, for every family kept large fires all night, and the latch-string always out.

"Asahel Avery, father of Squire Avery, of Montrose, Captain John Bard, Edward Fuller, afterwards sheriff of the county, and Benjamin Lathrop, then a young man, having lately entered the matrimonial state with the daughter of said A. Avery, and afterwards major in the militia and judge of the county court, constituted the company. About midnight we reached the house of Mr. Fuller, the terminus of our ride, on the farm where James Knapp now lives, and I believe the southern limit of Bridgewater township, but then the central point, for town-meetings and elections were held there for some time after."

In 1810, Harmony was set off from Willingborough, and the latter was then reduced to six miles square, the present size of Great Bend.

Joseph Stewart's fulling mill was advertised for business as early as 1811.

Colonel Jeremiah Baker came to Great Bend in 1812. He

was a tanner, and tanned in the swamp on the land now owned by Isaac Van Nosedale. He afterwards kept a store in the house long occupied by Rev. J. B. McCreary, and in Samuel Dayton's farm-house. He died at McKinney's Mills. A published reminiscence of the early times says:—

"Mr. Bowes, father of Joseph (Bowes) and grandfather of Ira Corbett's wife, was the sole merchant at the Bend. Soon afterwards Colonel Jeremiah Baker owned a small tannery and store. Several houses had by this time been put up and families moved in. A young stranger (Harrison, a watch-maker) came into the place and put up a grocery where the National Hotel now stands; he boarded with Squire Lyman T. Trowbridge's father, then living at that place. An incident occurred connected with this young man which created considerable excitement. Some ducks were in the river, and he sent Augustus Trowbridge, then a boy, for his gun; upon receiving it, he blew in the barrel, and supposing it was not loaded pointed it at the boy, and was about to snap it, but the boy, being afraid, ran away. The young man then went to the house, and Trowbridge's two daughters, young ladies, wished to learn how to shoot a gun; he raised the hammer, placed the muzzle to his head, and told one of the young ladies to pull the trigger, which she did; the gun proved to be loaded and blew his brains out. He fell with his head between the andirons in the fireplace."

Asahel Avery was appointed justice of the peace of Willingborough, in 1812, by Governor Synder.

— Reckhow, father of the late Isaac Reckhow, came in 1814. The latter occupied a seat in the State Legislature, and was for fifteen years an efficient justice.

Taylortown was settled by William Taylor (father of the late Jonathan Taylor of Lanesborough). He died February, 1851, aged seventy-one; his widow, in 1864, aged seventy-five.

"ORGANIZATION OF THE FIRST GREAT BEND BRIDGE COMPANY.—In the year 1812, the citizens of Great Bend petitioned our Legislature for a charter to build a bridge. An act was passed in February, 1812, and approved by Simon Snyder, then governor of our State. Under this act, Samuel Hodgdon and John B. Wallace, of Philadelphia, and Wm. Thomson, Sylvanus Hatch, Robert H. Rose, Minna Du Bois, and Richard Barnum, of the county of Susquehanna, were appointed commissioners to open books of subscription for the stock of said company, in pursuance of the act to authorize the governor to incorporate a company for erecting a bridge over the Susquehanna River at Great Bend, where the ferry was then kept, opposite the houses of Abraham Du Bois and Sylvanus Hatch, in the district of Willingboro, and county and district of Susquehanna.

"These commissioners did not get sufficient stock taken and paid in, to warrant building until the spring of 1814. The first meeting of stockholders was held February 10, 1814. William Thomson was chosen chairman, and James Newman, secretary, and Samuel Blair, Joseph Bowes, and David Summers, were chosen as judges of the election of managers. The following were elected: Samuel Blair, James Newman, Noble Trowbridge, John Maynard, Minna Du Bois, and Daniel Lyon. Joseph Bowes was chosen treasurer, James Newman, secretary. At this meeting proposals were received for building the first Great Bend bridge. The contract was awarded to Peter Burgot, of Oxford, N. Y.

"September 14, 1814, the following persons were appointed to inspect the new bridge, to see if it was completed according to contract: Joseph Bowes, David Buck, and Haynes Johnson—bridge accepted.

"At the same meeting, Christopher Longstreet was appointed to and accepted the office of toll gatherer and gate-keeper. On the third day of March, 1822, this first bridge was destroyed by an ice freshet, was rebuilt the same summer, by the brothers, Charles and Zedic Chamberlin. On the 19th of January, 1832, this second bridge was destroyed by an ice freshet, and was rebuilt the following summer by Abraham Du Bois. In the spring of 1846, this third bridge was destroyed by an ice freshet, and in the summer following, the present covered bridge was completed by Reuben C. Brock and Joseph Du Bois, to whom this contract was awarded."

The projectors and patrons of an enterprise of such lasting benefit to the people of Great Bend, and scarcely less to those living at great distances from it, should not be forgotten.

SUBSCRIBERS TO THE STOCK OF THE GREAT BEND BRIDGE, SEPTEMBER 7, 1812.—

William Thomson,	Sophia Luce,	Almon Munson,	John J. Storm,
Minna Du Bois,	Wm. Luce,	David Crocker,	Storm Rosa,
Samuel Blair,	Thad. Mason,	Peter Burgot,	Abraham Storm,
Abraham Du Bois,	Adam Burwell,	Isaac Rosa,	James Newman,
Asahel Avery,	Daniel Sneden,	Sylvns. Hatch,	Emery Carey,
John Maynard,	Dav. Summers,	N. Trowbridge,	John Hilborn,
Jeremiah Baker,	Rufus Fish,	Hezek. Leach,	Joseph Bowes,
Isaac D. Luce,	John Fish,	Daniel Lyon,	Frederick Henn.

Amount subscribed by the above, \$6000. All of the above named have passed away.

Ebenezer Brown, a carpenter, came from Orange County, N. Y., and assisted in building the bridge three times.

He was an associate of the hunter, Joe Fish, on his successful excursions after the wild animals that were the vexation of the farmers. At one time they caught three young wolves, and carried them home in a bag, and, the following day, they killed the old wolf.

Rattlesnakes were another pest. Mrs. Brown (now living) was once picking berries on Strong Hill, and sat down to rest on a ledge, from which she was warned to flee, and it was well she heeded, as twenty-one rattlesnakes were found under the same rocks that day.

Ebenezer B. died in 1871.

Mrs. B. says: "In the spring of 1821, John McKinney's, where is now McIntosh's, was the only house on Main Street south of Minna Du Bois's hotel. He afterwards built what is now a part of the Mansion House. This store was separate, nearer the bridge.

"Colonel Baker owned the McCreary place, and immediately west of it, Putnam Catlin, Esq., lived. Mr. Bowes had then left the house next below.

"Sylvanus Hatch then kept the block (or log) tavern near the bridge, and Judge Thomson's house was the only house between that and Noble Trowbridge's."

On the 4th of July, 1822, there was a grand dinner in the orchard by the log tavern. The oration was in the school-house, on the south side of the river, and the orator was so drunk, there was considerable excitement in the audience.

They went back to Hatch's, to dance. The ball-room was reached by stairs so narrow the company passed in single file, and dancing was confined to the centre of the room, as the roof sloped so on the sides that a person could not there stand upright. There was room only for "French fours." Blind Joe (white), the fiddler, was always along.

Isaac Stoddard and wife, from Litchfield County, Connecticut, in 1816, were among the very earliest settlers of Locust Hill. He died in 1853, aged eighty-two; she died in 1856, aged eighty. They had a large family.

CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS.

Sixteen members of the families who came to the vicinity of Great Bend in 1788 were church members. These were, Rev. Daniel Buck and wife, Ichabod Buck and wife, Stephen Murch and wife, Thomas Bates and wife, Deacon (before he came) Strong and wife, Deacon Merryman and wife, Deacon Jonathan Bennett and wife, Jonathan Bennett, Jr., and Bishop Merryman. There occurred a religious revival among them in 1789. Deacon Asa Adams was an early and a very exemplary member. All were very strict in the observance of the Sabbath. They would not carry a gun in hunting for the cows on the Sabbath, though wild animals were then frequently encountered.

Tradition speaks of "the famous Buck controversy" in 1790, as causing a division in the heretofore pleasant unity of the settlement, and a long-continued soreness of feeling between individuals which is said to have manifested itself at "raisings," and those siding with the minister were called the church party, and the other the Murch party, the latter being the accusers.

It is true that at one time there was a controversy between Mr. Buck and another minister before a ministerial association, respecting a similar charge, that is, false statements; but Mr. B. is said in this instance to have exculpated himself.

Rev. Seth Williston, a missionary from Connecticut, preached occasionally at Great Bend early in the "nineties," and was probably one of the "two ministers from Connecticut" who formed, about 1792, a Congregational Church—the first church in the county. We are told that in 1798 it numbered forty members, including the "Lower Settlement," now Conklin, N. Y.

A reorganization took place in 1802. In common with other Congregational churches of the county, it afterwards became Presbyterian in government.

The following statement of John B. Buck was published in 1869:—

"**EARLY PUBLIC WORSHIP.**—Seventy-five years ago, there was a log dwelling-house north of where the Erie Depot now stands, at Great Bend, used as a place of worship. The congregation was scattered up and down the river, in cabins. The only means of getting from here was by canoes. They went as far as the rift or rapids, where they left their canoes, and walked past the rapids, then took passage in a large canoe around by my father's. For dinner, they carried milk in bottles, and mush. They listened to one sermon in the forenoon, and then came back to canoe and ate dinner, then went back to second service; Daniel Buck was minister. In summer this was their means of travel.

"With increase of families the means of communication increased. In winter, there was no other way save by foot-paths. For many years there were no denominations save Presbyterians. About seventy years ago, the Methodists began an influence about two miles from here. Everybody espoused Methodism, men, women, and children. They frequently walked from five to six miles to be present at prayer meetings.

"My sisters were at one of the prayer meetings, and, as an evidence of the change in the spirit, understanding, and manners of the people, I give language used in two of the prayers on that occasion. The reader will bear in mind that this was seventy years ago, and that the people were poor, and had little of the means or knowledge of the present day. I do not conceive that either of the individuals mentioned cherished a wrong spirit toward their fellows, but their language gives an illustration of the strength of party spirit at that time.

"Elder Lewis said, 'Send the mind of the people up the river down to me, and the people down the river (the Presbyterians) may go to hell, and I care not.'

"Mrs. Stid, at the same meeting, said: 'O Lord, take Capt. Buck by the nape of the neck and shake him over hell until his teeth chatter like a raccoon.'"¹

Mr. Buck elsewhere states:—

"The school-houses of those early days were exceedingly primitive. They were built of logs; the seats made of slabs, with legs inserted in two-inch augur-holes for supports, and without backs. The desks for writing were along the wall, and when the lads and lasses practised at writing, they sat with their backs to the school. The rooms were warmed by a fireplace, and in these rude shelters the religious meetings were held and the early churches established. A school-house was afterwards built upon the ground now occupied by Mr. McKinney's store. It was used for a long time for a meeting-house. Previously, we had used Mr. Strong's dwelling-house, which stood a few rods north of the water-tank."

The first district school was taught in 1800, by Alba Dimon. Abijah Barnes taught in 1801, in a room of a log dwelling vacated for the purpose. The first singing school was taught by Almon Munson in the chamber of Judge Thomson's house, or what was afterwards his.

Religious meetings were sometimes held in Esq. Dimon's barn.

¹ This prayer is said to have been used by another in reference to one then present, who took it all in good part, since to the offending portion was added, "But don't drop him in, Lord! don't drop him in, for he's precious."

The following is J. Du Bois's account of

"THE FIRST SCHOOL-HOUSE.—The early settlers of this valley, to their honor, let it ever be remembered, felt it their duty at a very early day of its settlement to build a respectable edifice, in which they could educate the rising generation, and in which they could meet to worship God. They not only felt it their duty, but they at once acted in the matter by calling a meeting, at which a committee was appointed to circulate subscriptions to raise funds for the purpose of building a house, not only large enough to hold all the children in the township, but large enough to accommodate all the people of the valley who wanted to meet for worship. A subscription was drawn up, signed and circulated, and another meeting was held to hear the report of the subscription committee. The amount of subscriptions was reported. Many of the subscribers were then living in log houses, with roofs made by slabs split out of logs by hand, and others with roofs made of the boughs of the hemlock. Yet, at this meeting, it was resolved that this first house which they were about to build and dedicate to these noble purposes, should be a frame building sided with sawed pine siding, and shingled with good pine shingles, to be fourteen feet between joists, and twenty by forty feet on the ground, and to be finished in a workmanlike manner. One of the settlers proposed that a belfry and steeple should adorn the building. This proposition was objected to on the ground that the amount subscribed would not warrant this additional expense. The individual proposing this then arose and said that, as he was desirous of seeing at least one thing in this valley pointing heavenward, if they would build a spire he would add ten dollars to his subscription; a lady present then arose and said that she would add ten dollars; others followed suit, and the matter was soon decided in favor of a steeple. The windows were to be large, and Gothic in style, and a pulpit was to be built in the north end of the building; a porch was to cover the entrance, and as the house was to face the street, the spire was to be on the centre of the building. Large swinging partitions divided the interior of the house in the middle, when used for school purposes, but were hoisted and kept in position by supports, when used for church purposes. This house was to be free to all denominations of worshippers. After the above plan this house was built. The steeple on this first house of worship, built at Great Bend, displayed good architectural design, and ornamental finish, and was painted white; but I am sorry to have to record the fact that neither the fathers nor their degenerate sons ever painted the body of this otherwise fine building. But in it many youth were educated, and many a sinner, convicted of his great ingratitude to a kind and ever-merciful God, was pointed heavenward for relief, by the faithful teacher and preacher. As the roads were very rough in those days, most of the worshippers came to meeting on horseback, often two riding on one horse. As we had no settled ministers of that time, Captain Ichabod Buck, a soldier of the Revolution, of the Presbyterian faith, when there was no preacher present, always opened the meeting by reading a portion of God's Word, and by prayer. William Buck, his son, led the choir in singing, after which Captain Buck read a selected sermon, and invariably closed the meeting by calling on Deacon Asa Adams, another soldier of the Revolution, for the closing prayer."

In this school-house the first Sabbath school was started, June 1st, 1817 or '18, at the suggestion of Elijah, son of Captain I. Buck. The first teachers were Miss Jane Du Bois (Mrs. Lusk) and a Miss Stewart.

Harford had set the example, after Rev. Ebenezer Kingsbury and Captain Buck had attended the Presbytery, where they

listened to an account of what Robert Raikes had done in England.

A very sad state of things appears to have existed prior to 1815. Infidelity was then very prevalent and outspoken.

"Some prominent infidels had secured such an interest in our house of worship," says one narrator, "that they could control the house; they then turned the church out, and for some time after they met there on the Sabbath and read infidel works. One of the most active men in this was then a justice of the peace; in some way he offended one of his infidel friends, who, to retaliate, sent a formal complaint against the "Esq." to the governor of the State, accusing him of turning a Christian congregation out of their house of worship, and of publicly reading infidel works on the Sabbath.

"The governor took away his commission, and this put a stop to these public meetings." But the feeling towards Christians was exhibited still in words such as: "In a little while there will not be ropes enough to *hang Christians* in America."

It is glory enough for one Sabbath school, that quite a number of children from some of these infidel families attended, and, prior to 1821, had become hopefully pious. After Mr. Buck, there was no regular minister until about this time, Rev. O. Hill supplied the pulpit, then Rev. Moses Jewell and Rev. J. B. McCreary. Deacon John McKinney and Abraham Du Bois, Esq., built the present Presbyterian church.

Elder Dimock organized the Baptist church, October 27, 1825.

Deacon Daniel Lyons alone built the meeting-house. Elder Frederick was the first minister. The services, for some time prior to this date of their suspension, were conducted by Deacon Lyons, who had a prejudice against singing, which he maintained with a spirit equal to that exhibited by his father, David Lyons, —one of the "Boston Tea Party" in 1773—but his success only contributed to the scattering of the flock. Very recently (summer of 1872) the Baptist organization has been revived here.

The Episcopalians held service in the old Bowes mansion before they built a church on the borough side of the river.

The ministers of this denomination have been: Revs. Messrs. Long, Skinner, Reese, Bowers, Scott, Hickman, Day, Loup, and Jerome.

The dedication of St. Lawrence Catholic chapel took place July 1869. The laying of the corner-stone of the M. E. church in August, 1869, was conducted with Masonic ceremonies. The building was finished at an expense of \$10,500, and was a model house of worship. But—fire has laid it low. The people, however, with commendable spirit, are already rearing another upon its site.

Mr. Joseph Backus contributed the following, in 1870, to the Montrose 'Republican.' It refers to 1811, when the school-house mentioned above may have been burned down. It stood at the present railroad crossing on Church Street. A second school-house was also burned on the same spot.

"At the age of nineteen I had an invitation to teach school at Great Bend, accepted; went there and found no school-house, but a vacant dwelling on the farm of Jonathan Dimon was obtained, and, having passed a formal examination before said Dimon and Adam Burwell, I was duly installed in my new domicile, a written agreement drawn up by which each was to pay for what he signed or sent, specified terms, three months, four weeks each, five and a half days each week, at the exorbitant price of eight dollars per month. Settlers being scarce, scholars came quite a distance, from as far up the river as Captain Ichabod Buck's. I recollect boarding there, but the names of the children have escaped my memory. Silas and Hiram Buck, of another family, I well remember. They were somewhat my senior, and were very agreeable companions, especially Silas, whose mild and genial temperament would win friends at all times and in all places. I was much pleased when I saw the notice of a surprise party at his widow's for her benefit.¹ My services being appreciated, the proprietors agreed to build a school-house if I would serve the ensuing winter—wages raised to ten dollars. I did so, and the house being located farther down the river, brought a new set of scholars from both sides of the river, enlarging the circle of my acquaintances and friends."

Early in 1831, the Bowes Mansion was converted into a female seminary and boarding school, the first Principal of which disgraced the "Rev." prefixed to his name. In the fall of 1832, James Catlin and Miss Lucretia Loomis had charge of the institution. When the latter left for Montrose, it was changed to an academy, and only male students were invited, J. Corwin, Principal.

A good normal school is now sustained in Great Bend Borough.

"In Great Bend there are five public burial places. The oldest, called the 'Potter's Field,' on the south side of the river, was so named because many strangers have been buried there. It was given as a free ground by Robert H. Rose, one of the first land-holders of the township, then known as Willingboro. It contained ten acres, and was given to Charles Dimon and Wm. Thomson as trustees. Next, the ground known as the Newman burying ground, one mile southeast of the Erie Depot. This is a beautiful spot, well laid out. Jason Treadwell, the murderer of Oliver Harper, the only person ever executed in Susquehanna County, lies in this ground, with nothing but the senseless turf to mark the spot. There are churchyards adjoining the Presbyterian and Episcopal churches, where many of the oldest inhabitants are buried. The ground near the Presbyterian church was given by Dominicus (Minna) Du Bois, and that near the Episcopal church by Wm. Thomson. The only really attractive place is Woodlawn Cemetery, one mile east of the town."

¹ Mr. Backus refers to the following newspaper item:—

"A party of eight old ladies, all widows, made Mrs. Silas Buck an old-fashioned visit on Tuesday of this week. Their united ages were six hundred and forty-one years, the eldest being ninety-two years of age, and the youngest seventy-seven. They were all of Great Bend."

The following newspaper item from Great Bend appeared in 1871:—

“‘Only waiting till the shadows are a little longer grown,
Only waiting till the glimmer of the day’s last beam is flown.’

“There are seven of them, in our little borough, good old mothers, whose united ages amount in the aggregate to 579 years. Here are their names in rotation, from youngest to oldest; Mrs. Silas Buck, Howe, Denison, Leavensworth, Stephens, Wm. Buck, Lydia Thurston.”—One year later, and the second and fifth on the list were done with “waiting” forever.

GREAT BEND BOROUGH

Is about three-fourths of a mile in length, and between one-quarter and one-half of a mile in width. It has four streets parallel with the river and east of it, with five streets running east and west. It was incorporated November, 1861. It had then within its limits “two railroad depots, one large tannery, three hotels, and a large number of stores, shops, and dwelling-houses, and about seven hundred inhabitants.

The ground for the Erie Railroad was broken at Great Bend in 1847, and late in December, 1848, it was finished to Binghamton. The State of New York had agreed to appropriate \$100,000 to the road on condition it should be finished to Binghamton by January 1st, 1849. The company run their first train through in time to secure the appropriation. John McKinney built his storehouse just previous, and it was at his platform the first trains stopped. The first superintendent of the road was ——— Kirkwood; Mr. E. J. Loder succeeded him, and the station at Great Bend was first named after him—*Lodersville*—the name also of the post-office, while the village on the south side of the river retained its old name—Great Bend. The post-office mark of the latter is now Great Bend Village, to distinguish it from the borough.

The Erie Railroad station is on that part of the old Strong farm which Judge Thomson occupied. Lowry Green bought this farm, and sold it to William Wolcott, who sold it reasonably as village lots; and by his enterprise conduced greatly to the prosperity of the town. The adjoining farm, forming the north end of the borough, was purchased by Truman Baldwin.

The Erie Railroad pays to Pennsylvania \$10,000 yearly for the right of way through Susquehanna County, or rather for freedom from taxation, and the company finds in the arrangement a pecuniary gain.

The State of New York, ten years previous to the construction of the road, had desired to procure from Pennsylvania that small tract of territory lying north of the Susquehanna River, in the township of Great Bend, and also a small gore of land lying on the east side of said river, from the State line down to

Lanesboro, in Harmony Township, thereby enabling the State of New York to locate and construct the New York and Erie Railroad down the valley of the Susquehanna River from the point where it first enters the State of Pennsylvania to Binghamton, without leaving their own territory.

At a meeting held at Great Bend, September 14th, 1839, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of petitioning the Legislature of Pennsylvania to adopt measures for ceding the above land to New York, it was

"Resolved, that we are sincerely attached to the laws and Constitution of Pennsylvania, and that we cannot better show our attachment than by promoting her interest and convenience.

"Resolved, that in our opinion, both the great States of New York and Pennsylvania would be sharers in the benefit arising from the construction of the New York and Erie Railroad, and that the citizens of both States ought to pursue a liberal policy to secure and facilitate the construction of this great public improvement on the best possible route.

"Resolved, that with these views, those of us living within the bounds of the above strip of land, have signed our names to the petition in question, wishing at the same time to retain the friendly feelings of those we leave in case of our separation from them.

"Resolved, That not being influenced by any political party or party measure, we invite all persons friendly to the best interests of all concerned, to aid in devising the best possible means to effect the object herein contemplated."

The President of the meeting was Putman Catlin, Esq., and the Vice-Presidents Abraham Du Bois and Charles Dimon.

A fire, Jan. 1870, consumed the National Hotel. In the same year the junction of the Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Railroad was removed to Binghamton. The portion of this road extending from Great Bend to Binghamton, a distance of fourteen miles, is called "The Valley Railroad."

There was a company formed for the manufacture of scales; the foundry established by Emmet Curtis, and whose scales took the first premium at our State Fair, over those of Fairbanks and others, but it is now closed. A patent was issued recently to Edward R. Playle, of Great Bend, for a furnace for smelting steel, iron, etc.

In the immediate vicinity of Great Bend there are five steam saw-mills, cutting on an average five thousand feet of lumber a day, besides numerous water-power mills, cutting all together probably half a million feet per year.

On the village side of the river there is a machine-shop for the repair of locomotives of the Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Railroad.

PHYSICIANS.

Rev. Daniel Buck may have been the first to practice the healing art at Great Bend, but Dr. Fobes, who was there in

1791, or before, was probably the first regular physician in Susquehanna County. An amusing story is told at the doctor's expense. There was a young, pious widow living at Chenango Point (now Binghamton), and Dr. F., then a widower, living at Great Bend, paid his addresses to her. He was very pious, praying night and morning, also asking a blessing at the table. They were married and moved to the Bend. The doctor continued praying and saying grace at meals a few days, but suddenly stopping, his wife asked him, "Why do you leave off praying?" "Oh, my dear, I've got what I prayed for!"

The physicians who had lived at the Bend, and had removed previous to August, 1807, were Drs. Fobes, Noah Kincaid, and Charles Fraser. Dr. Jonathan Gray remained and advertised his services at "twenty-five cents for every mile and under; one dollar for every six hours' continuance with a patient sick of a fever;" and added, "all shall be done gratis for any person who is less capable to pay than the practitioner is to do without it."

In August, 1807, Dr. Eleazar Parker, a native of Connecticut, came to Great Bend (then called Willingboro, Susquehanna County), and practiced medicine and surgery two and a half years successfully. In the fall of that year he was appointed Surgeon's Mate to the 129th Regiment, which had been formed the spring previous. He was commissioned the first postmaster in the county, February 1, 1808; Isaac Post, of Bridgewater, being commissioned one month later. The same year, March 6, Dr. P. performed the operation of bronchotomy on a little girl two years old, and extracted a watermelon seed from her windpipe. She recovered and is now living at Harford, and has the seed in her possession. (She died January, 1873.)

He introduced vaccination into the county and vaccinated a large number. His practice extended into almost every settlement in what is now Susquehanna County—a circuit of fifty miles of bad roads, on horseback when practicable, but in many places there were only foot-paths for miles through the woods—and, laborious as it was, it proved very unremunerative, for the people were really unable to pay much.

Dr. Parker married a daughter of Jonathan Dimon, and in 1810 moved to Kingston, Luzerne County. He was Examining Surgeon of the 35th Pennsylvania Regiment during the war of 1812; has been a teetotaler over forty years, and never prescribed alcohol to a patient in his practice of sixty years; and now, 1872, at the age of ninety years, is hale and active. On petition of Dr. Parker, the north end of the Newburgh Turnpike, finished by D. Summers, was made a post-road.

In 1813 or 1814, Dr. McFall, an Irishman, educated and highly re-spected, came to the Bend and died there about 1835.

CHAPTER VIII.

HARMONY.

THE east bend of the Susquehanna River within our county may have been settled as early, or even a few months earlier than the western, but respecting this nothing further has been ascertained than that, "about the time the State line was run," Moses Comstock came with his family from Rhode Island, and located on the flat between the Starucca and Canawacta, where these streams enter the Susquehanna River. The commissioners appointed by the governors of New York and Pennsylvania to determine the line between these States, had marked by mile-stones ninety miles of it, from the Delaware westward, prior to October 12, 1786; and in November, 1787, they reported the completion of their task. At the latter period, it is asserted, the first white settler, mentioned above, was here; but he had no title to the land which he was not obliged eventually to relinquish upon the demand of the Pennsylvania claimant, Colonel Timothy Pickering. Still, for a dozen years at least, he and his sons Asa and Abner continued their improvements, and in this vicinity he died.

In 1789, the mouth of Cascade Creek became the terminus of a road which was projected by Samuel Preston, of Wayne County (then Northampton), from the north and south road, constructed, with some aid from the State, by Tench Coxe and Henry Drinker, Jr., of Philadelphia. (The last named was for a long period cashier of the Bank of North America, Philadelphia, and was the father of Henry W. and Richard Drinker, to whom he gave a tract of 30,000 acres in Luzerne County, which was known as "Drinker's Beech," from the timber abundant there. He was also a nephew of the Henry Drinker, sometimes styled "the Elder," who was founder of the "Drinker estate" of 500,000 acres in Susquehanna and other counties.)

Samuel Preston and John Hilborn had conducted the enterprise of Messrs. Coxe and Drinker, together with Samuel Stanton, the first settler of Mount Pleasant. Mr. Preston's own road, as given above, was constructed under the impression that the settlement he projected on the Susquehanna would eventually be a place of much business.

Rev. S. Whaley, in his 'History of Mount Pleasant,' gives the following in reference to this section and Mr. Stanton:—

"During the summer of 1789 he cleared several acres of land

in this fertile valley, erected several dwelling-houses, built a store, a blacksmith shop, and a saw-mill. He named the place *Harmony*."

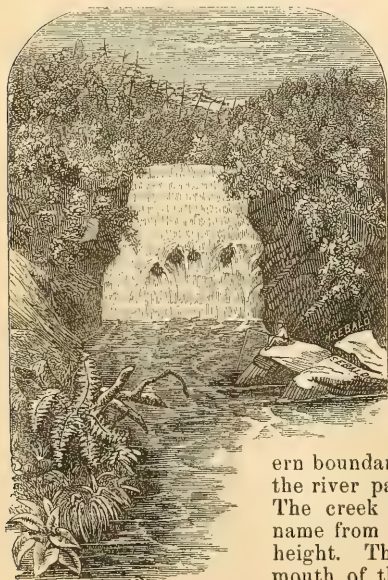
Messrs. Drinker, Hilborn, and Stanton were associated with him in this enterprise also. Mr. Stanton grew enthusiastic and muse-inspired over it, of which he left tangible evidence in a dozen stanzas of six lines each, which were styled by him, "A few lines of poetry, attempted on seeing and assisting in building the town of Harmony, on the Susquehanna River, August 2, 1789:"—

"Sweet, happy place, called Harmony.
Strangers must say, when they pass by,
The Founder they approve;
Who from a forest wild did raise
A seat where men may spend their days
In friendship, peace, and love.
* * * * *

"How curiously the streets are planned,
How thick the stores and houses stand,
How full of goods they are!
From north and south the merchants meet,
Have what they wish for most complete,
And to their homes repair."

As we read the transcript of his glowing fancies and contrast them with the solitary relic that covers the ground he saw "so thick with houses," our amusement is tinged with sadness. Two

Fig. 11. FALLS OF CASCADE CREEK.



descendants of very early settlers in this vicinity, themselves over eighty years of age, never heard of a mill at this point, and say "there was no mill in Harmony before 1810." With its superior mill-sites this seems strange.

The following sketch appeared in the 'Philadelphia Casket,' November, 1828, accompanied by an engraving: a reproduction of which we give:—

"Cascade Creek unites itself to the Susquehanna about a mile to the south of that part of the northern boundary line of Pennsylvania through which the river passes on its entrance into this State. The creek is in general rapid, and derives its name from a fine cascade of about sixty feet in height. This is about half a mile above the mouth of the creek, the banks or cliffs of which

are so abrupt on both sides that the visitant is obliged to wade a considerable part of the way before he can reach the cascade, the beauty of which will amply reward his toil. At this place the rock is composed of horizontal strata of great regularity, over which the water, catching in its descent, falls in a broken sheet of foam. The banks of the creek, above the cascade, are skirted with the hemlock spruce (*Pinus-abies Americana*), which, though a tree of little value for its timber, adds greatly in the painter's eye to the picturesque beauty of the scene."

A traveler who visited the spot many years ago, in midwinter, said:—

"The intense cold of the two preceding days had completely congealed the water of the brook, and chilled the murmur and the roar into silence. It seemed indeed as if some magician, while the stream was dashing from rock to rock in its joyous uproar, had suddenly arrested it in its course, and turned torrent and foam and bubble instantly to stone; and the cataract, in lone and icy beauty, now slumbers on its throne."

The most that was then expected, was a good turnpike road.

Mr. Preston afterwards connected his road with Stockport (his residence) on the Delaware, by a road which he supposed would be a great thoroughfare between the two rivers, while the north and south road would bring travel from the south, and both concentrate at Harmony.

This place was then a part of old Tioga, which in 1791 was set off to Willingborough; and it was not until 1809 that the township was organized which bears the name given the settlement in 1789.

The north line of the State from the east line of the county to the fifteenth mile-stone—nine miles—was the north line of the township, and its east and west boundaries extended south twelve miles, to the present line between Jackson and Gibson, which, continued to Wayne County, formed the southern boundary. Thus the area of Harmony, as ordered in 1809, included the limits of the present township, together with Oakland, and the borough of Susquehanna Depot, Jackson, Thomson, and the northern part of Ararat.

More than half the western boundary of the present township is the Susquehanna River, which enters the State between the twelfth and thirteenth mile-stones, its course being a little east of south; but, from the point where it turns abruptly southwest, it enters Oakland, and the western line then follows the Lenox and Harmony Turnpike, which lies east of Drinker's Creek.

Besides the three principal streams of the township which have had mention, three branches of the Starucca, Hemlock Creek, Roaring Brook, and Pig-pen Brook, as well as the stream itself, afford fine mill sites, and traverse a great part of

the township. The source of the Starucca,¹ as also that of the Canawacta, is in Thomson, but one branch of the latter "heads" in Jackson. This stream is said to commemorate the remnant of an Indian tribe that once lingered in the vicinity. The old orthography of the word was *Conewagta*.

Comfort's Pond, with its islets crossed by the southern line of Harmony, is the only lake of the township.

The broad ridges forming the larger portion of the area of Harmony, are still covered with the original forests of beech and pine, and contain thousands of acres of unseated land.

Comstock's Rifts are the rapids in the Susquehanna, two miles long, just below the place where Moses Comstock settled. This was occupied after he left it by Timothy Pickering, Jr., until 1807; and was afterward owned by John Comfort, Martin Lane and his heirs, by Jonathan Taylor, and is at present in the possession of Egbert Thomas.

Abner, son of Moses Comstock, was on his father's first location as late as 1800, when a road was viewed from the north line of the State, on the east side of the river down to his house, "at a fording," whence it crossed the river to join a road on the other side near the plantation of William Smith. J. B. Buck says of the years just preceding:—

"There were then no roads or wagons to ride for pleasure, or business.

"The river was used as the great highway, and the boats were canoes dug from a large tree. These, when properly constructed with the ends turned up, and properly rounded, supplied an easily propelled, but frail and unsteady craft. (Until 1819 there was not even a bridle-path on the south side of the river from Harmony to Great Bend.)"

He also adds the following incidents:—

"At the early date of which we have been speaking, the settlers were obliged to depend upon the forests very much for their supply of meat. It was a daily sight in those days; a man, dog, and gun equipped for the forest. The chase was successful enough to answer for a dependence.

"One day Asa Comstock, with his dog, drove a large buck into the river opposite where the Presbyterian church, at Susquehanna Depot, now stands. It was not all frozen over, and the current carried the dog and deer down the stream, until they came to firm ice in the bend of the river. He laid down his gun, and, knife in hand, took the buck by the horns, thinking to cut his throat across the edge of the ice. But the animal was yet fresh, and so quick with his feet, as with a jerk to draw him into the river; and man, dog, and deer were hurried by the rushing current under the ice. There was no possibility of returning, and his only hope was in going down stream until he found an air hole or opening in the ice. If he rose to the surface the ice would stick him fast—he therefore hurried downward as deep in the water as possible until he saw light near where the bridge now stands where he escaped.

"He was a large strong man. There was no means of earning money in

¹ This orthography is given, somewhat reluctantly, after consulting the best gazetteers.

this valley except by hunting or making shingles. Money was far from being plenty—not as abundant as meat. Owing to these causes, he decided upon going into the northern portion of the State of New York to chop cord-wood for a furnace near Lake George. While there a severe snow storm kept him within doors. He, in company with many Dutch teamsters and several Indians, sat around a bar-room fire. Whiskey in those days was drank freely. The Dutch were great smokers, and upon this occasion they had nothing to do but to drink and smoke. A stout Indian present amused himself by passing around, and knocking the pipes from the mouths of the Dutch smokers. Comstock was not a habitual smoker, but witnessing the impudence of the Indian, he procured a pipe and tobacco and joined the circle of smoking Dutchmen. Soon the Indian struck his pipe, knocking it to the floor, when he at once arose and knocked the Indian where the pipe lay. The Indian rose full of fight, and, the landlord forbidding fighting in the house, dared C. to follow him. He followed at once, and in passing through the hall, picked up a large bear-trap and struck the Indians with it between the shoulders, killing him instantly. The other Indians ran as if for dear life.

“This was a critical time for poor Comstock. The Indians would soon be back with recruited force. He was advised to flee for his life, for no help could save him from the wrath of the Indians. One smoke had been his ruin, and would cost him his life.

“He refused to run. He resolved to stay and meet his fate like a man, for, said he, ‘if I run, they will surely kill me.’

“Not long had he to wait. Soon the old Sachem, followed by fourteen warriors, was seen approaching. ‘Where is the man that killed Indian?’ inquired the Sachem. All had fled but Asa Comstock—‘I am the man,’ he boldly replied, ‘what do you want of me?’ ‘You good fellow—Indian no business to break your pipe—you do right. You good fellow—come have a drink.’”

Abner Comstock afterwards removed to the vicinity of Windsor, N. Y. Asa, his brother, resided with their mother on a part of William Smith’s “plantation,” which has since been owned by Levi Westfall, and is now in Oakland. Mrs. C. lived many years, “a comfort to her children, and a welcome guest to many of her old neighbors.”

In November, 1791, John Hilborn, an agent for Henry Drinker, came from Philadelphia with his wife, who rode on horseback from Stroudsburg with a child in her arms. Their settlement was permanent, at the mouth of Cascade Creek. Their daughter Mary, now Mrs. Robert McKune, was born here August, 1792, and still resides upon the same farm, with her son George, opposite the now empty house which her father built and occupied many years, and where he died, the 15th of fourth month, 1826, aged nearly eighty-five.

This building marks the site of the one which, in 1789, was so multiplied by the imagination of Mr. Stanton. A portion of the old Stockport road is still traveled along Hemlock Creek as far as Jennings’s; but, from that point it struck off directly over the hills, crossing the “head” of Pig-pen Creek, where it was within half a mile of the State line, and thence down to Hilborn’s. It is now covered with timber. For many years,

after his intellect became clouded, the unremitting labor of Jesse, the youngest son of John Hilborn, Sen., kept the road open. He had a wolf pit by the side of the road, near Pig-pen Creek.

Mr. and Mrs. Dilling, parents of Mrs. John Hilborn, were here very early, and both are buried in Harmony.

It is said the first religious meetings in Harmony were those of the Friends, at the house of John Hilborn.

If there were Presbyterians here, their services were held at the west bend of the river.

The following sketch of John Hilborn was first published in the 'Bucks County Patriot,' June, 1826, and, a little later, in the 'Register' of Montrose. Though a *double l* is here given to his name, it is generally omitted.

"*John Hillborn* was a native of Bucks County. He was brought up by his grandfather, Stephen Twining, who had a grist-mill. J. Hillborn afterwards conducted, for a number of years, a merchant mill on the Neshamony, and later, run a saw-mill at Coryell's ferry. During the war of the Revolution, he was a non-combatant, being a Quaker, and was then living with his elder brother Joseph, on Brodhead's Creek, seven miles above Stroudsburg. Early in June, 1778, they apprehended danger from the Indians, being set on by the British forces at Niagara. An agreement had been made by the Hillborns with John Price, who lived seven miles above, on the north branch of the creek, that if either of them heard of any Indian disturbance, he should immediately inform the other. One morning, an old woman, living two miles above, came running to Hillborn's house, and she told them her son's family were all killed or taken, and she only was suffered to escape on account of her age. Joseph Hillborn fled with his wife across Brodhead's Creek. John, however, remembered his promise to Price, and thought, as a hunter, well knowing the woods, he could carry the information with safety. About one mile from the house was a high conical hill, which Hillborn determined to ascend for the purpose, if possible, of observing the motions of the Indians. In so doing, however, he did but accelerate his fate, for the Indians had taken possession before him, and upon his advance, presented their guns at him and demanded his surrender. There was no alternative. He submitted, and they extorted from him a promise never to attempt an escape. Then they bound a burden on his back and ordered him to march. He soon discovered they had with them all the family mentioned above, except one little boy, who made so much noise, they killed and scalped him near the house.

"According to Indian customs, they traveled on the highest ground in order to keep a look-out. As they came in sight of John Price's house, the Indians closely examined Hillborn as to who lived there? what sort of a man was he? did he keep a gun? was he rich? etc. It severely exercised his mind—he was all anxiety to save Price—and he well knew if the Indians found anything misrepresented, it would be worse for all. He told them the plain truth, that Price was a poor, inoffensive man, had nothing to do with the war, but did keep a gun to support his family in meat. They held a council in Indian, and his heart was almost overcome, when he heard the Indian captain pronounce in English, 'Let them live.'

"The Indians hurried the march for fear of being pursued, and great hardships were encountered, especially by the women and children, in wading the many deep streams of water. Hillborn discovered that their sufferings excited sympathy, but there was a great diversity in the characters or disposition of the Indians. The most conspicuous and amiable among them was a

private, a little, smart, active Mohawk. The worst of the company were white men, one of whom, Thomas Hill, conducted himself in such a manner towards the women prisoners, that the Indian captain endeavored to shame him. A pretty little girl among the prisoners used to cry for milk and more victuals, and the little Mohawk would carry her, and try to soothe her by promising her plenty of milk and good victuals when they should reach Chemung, which he afterwards fulfilled, but Thomas Hill would try to thwart the child, and show her her little brother's scalp, and almost set her distracted. This was not approved by the Indians.

"At Tioga Point they rested. Here all the loads that had been carried on their backs were put into canoes and consigned to J. Hillborn to conduct to Chemung. When they reached the latter place, according to the Indian custom, all the prisoners must *run the gauntlet*, that is, all the Indians, young and old, stand in two rows with switches, and the prisoner must run between them—the Indians paying on according to their discretion. When J. Hillborn's turn came to run, he had suffered so much by assisting the others on the journey, his feet were so sore (as he had no shoes) he could not run. The Mohawk, seeing this, told him to sit down, and he would run for him. The Indians paid it on him more severely than on any of the others, but he prided himself on bearing it all with heroic bravery, without flinching. After the *gauntlet*, the Indians treated all the prisoners, as to provisions, as well as they lived themselves, and their business was to hoe corn.

"The Indians soon after held a council upon another war expedition. The Mohawk informed Hillborn that it was to be on the West Branch of the Susquehanna, and that *John Montour* was to be their captain. Hillborn was alarmed, as he feared that a defeat would make worse times for the prisoners, at this time treated well; and as he felt himself somewhat recruited, he formed a plan for his escape.

"A division of the American army was then at Wyoming; this he knew, for he had heard the morning and evening gun on their journey. The Indians had several good running canoes, and Hillborn resolved to take the best, while the Indians were asleep, and go down to Wyoming. As he was a good waterman, he had no doubt of getting far enough in advance before the discovery of the flight, to elude all pursuit. One consideration restrained him—would such conduct be right? He concluded to continue a few days longer, and consider its propriety. In the first place, he had solemnly engaged, to save his life, that he would never run away, and the Indians had placed full confidence in his promise; but then, it was extorted by fear. Secondly, should he, professing to be a Christian, set a bad example—what would be the sad consequence of such a deviation to his fellow-prisoners, or others hereafter, under similar circumstances? This seriously claimed his reflection, and he found the most real peace and inward comfort of mind—come life or death—to strictly adhere to the solemn promise he had made; and found sweeter sleep by a full resignation to his fate, than in any flattering prospect of success in an attempt to escape. When Col. Brandt was sent to Chemung, in anticipation of Sullivan's expedition and attack, of which the British had warning, the little Mohawk advised Hillborn to plead his cause before him. This he did as well as he could, saying he was a Quaker, and that it was against his principles to fight. Brandt pretended to believe him, but replied, 'You are a prisoner to the Delaware tribe, I am a Mohawk, I have not the authority.' The next morning he was ordered to be prepared to march to the fortress at Niagara. He had no shoes nor clothing, except such as he was captured in. His greatest suffering was while marching barefooted forty-five miles on the beach of Seneca Lake, from which one of his feet never recovered.

"At Niagara, the Indians were paid their *bounty* on him as a prisoner; he was then ordered to Quebec, which he reached by sloop and batteau, just two months after his capture. As he was a prisoner, he was to be sold to

the highest bidder, to refund the bounty paid the Indians. His almost naked and reduced situation, when exposed to sale, was truly deplorable; to use his own words, 'My appearance was not merchantable.' Fortunately, he fell into the hands of a veteran colonel, who had been aid to General Wolfe. This gentleman, pitying his forlorn situation, advanced money to clothe him comfortably, and, upon learning he was acquainted with the management of a gristmill, employed him in a very handsome one of his own. There Hillborn behaved so well, that in a short time, he was entrusted with the exclusive management of the mill, and his situation was made very comfortable. However, he became very impatient to return home, and the second winter of his residence with the worthy colonel, he asked permission to return, when the spring should open, to his country, to meet once more his relatives. The colonel appeared to hear his request with deep concern, and offered him high wages, if he would consent to remain and attend to the mill. But nothing could induce him to stay. As soon as the navigation opened, he settled for the redemption or purchase-money, and all that had been advanced him for clothing and necessities, and his master allowed him such wages as he pleased, for as a bought servant, Hillborn made no charge. His master made out that there were nine pounds sterling due to him, for which he paid him ten guineas and his passage to New York, and they parted in the best friendship. He had paid for his freedom by honest labor, and for the first time since his capture, had money in his pocket. After putting to sea, all went well until the captain, speaking a vessel, was informed that a French fleet was on the coast, capturing every British sail; and then he gave over his voyage to New York, and put into Halifax. Here J. Hillborn suffered many hardships, in consequence of the scarcity of provisions, and his money soon went, and he was again reduced to extreme distress. At length the commander of the garrison, in order to get rid of some hungry mouths, permitted Hillborn and some Yankees to take an old sloop, and endeavor to find their way to New York. After meeting with much rough weather and great hardships, they at length arrived at Sandy Hook, where Hillborn reminded the master of the vessel of a promise to put him on shore in Jersey.

"The war was not yet ended, and as he traveled through New Jersey, his very distressed appearance rendered him an object of pity and attention from those hospitable people. As he had been starved, he ate sparingly, and found he gained strength. As he approached the Delaware, he learned that all the ferries were guarded, so that none could cross. It was midsummer, and the water was low, and he well knew the best fords, so that by wading and swimming, he was able to reach the Pennsylvania shore, and a house in Upper Makefield, where he found his venerable father, a brother and a sister. From his very emaciated condition and distressed appearance, none knew him, and he was necessitated to tell them who he was. Such a scene as followed is easier conceived than expressed. It was then two years and some days since he was captured, in all which time they had never heard whether he was dead or alive.

"The writer of the above narrative adds, that J. Hillborn communicated the facts to him 16th June, 1787, in sight of the scene of his capture, and states, that J. Hillborn was the *first* prisoner that returned from Canada, and perhaps the only one that paid for his freedom. After the peace, they were discharged, and all his fellow-prisoners returned, except one, who died at Niagara.

"Since John Hillborn lived in Harmony, that noted Thomas Hill stopped there to stay all night. Hillborn knew him and treated him well, but he did not know Hillborn. In the morning, he asked, 'What is to pay?' John Hillborn replied, 'It is not my practice to charge an old acquaintance,' upon which Hill started, and asked, 'What acquaintance?' J. Hillborn said, 'Thomas Hill, has thee forgot our journey from Brodhead's Creek to Chemung?'—and said no more."

The sons of John Hilborn were, John, William, and Jesse. His daughters—Hannah (Mrs. Warren Bird, now dead), and Polly (Mary) now Mrs. Robert McKune of Harmony.

Joseph, brother of John Hilborn, came in 1791, and (his wife being dead) resided with him.

James Westfall came from Sussex County, New Jersey, in 1794 or 1795, and settled about one and a half miles above the mouth of the Canawacta, on the east side of the Susquehanna, on the upper end of what was afterwards known as the Pickering farm. His son Levi was born here in 1797. About 1800, he removed to the farm of William Smith on the west side, where Levi Westfall¹ now lives.

In 1800, Col. Timothy Pickering, once Secretary of State under Washington, came to Susquehanna County to look after lands he had purchased. He found located upon them the families of Comstock, Smith, and Westfall, whose titles not being obtained from him caused their removal. Timothy Pickering, Jr., an only son, at his father's request, reluctantly consented to locate on the flat vacated by Abner Comstock, and came on from Boston, and built the first framed house in Harmony; but he was sadly homesick, and being deprived of the society to which he was accustomed, he married a respectable young woman of the backwoods—a sister of the wife of Elder Nathaniel Lewis, the pioneer Methodist, of what is now Oakland. This step is said to have been a great disappointment to Col. P., whose ambition would have chosen for his son a bride from courtly circles. He died in 1807 in his twenty-eighth year, and his remains now rest in the cemetery near the railroad, opposite his own house. His father afterwards so far overcame his prejudices as to come to Harmony and take the widow and his two grandchildren to his own home, then near Boston, Mass.

John Comfort came in 1808, and bought the house and farm of T. Pickering, Jr., and returned to the East. In 1809 he came to settle, only removing after about ten years, half a mile above the present viaduct. He built a saw-mill prior to 1812, near the site of the present mill of Charles Lyons; the first one it is averred in the township. He was a justice of the peace for some years, and so honest a man, that one to whom he had given a promissory note returned it to him for safe keeping.

His sons were James, Silas, and George. The last-named is now a missionary to the Omahas in Montana. Silas was a preceding elder of the Methodist church in Missouri nearly forty years ago; but was dismissed because he received "nigger testimony." He died April 5, 1850, in his seventy-fourth year.

¹ Since deceased.

Adam Swagart, a brother-in-law of John Comfort, came to the settlement two or three years after the latter.

Joseph McKune, Sr., came to Harmony about 1810, locating on the east side of the river, but in 1832 removed to Oakland. His son Robert married Mary Hilborn in 1817, and then went to Orange County, New York, where he resided several years before returning to Harmony. Upon the death of John Hilborn, Mr. McKune and family occupied his house, and continued to reside in it for thirty-five years. Robert McK. was killed while walking on the railroad track, March 4th, 1861.

The perils of travel on former roads is illustrated by an incident told by David Lyons, now of Lanesboro; but who, in 1815, resided with his father at Great Bend. Mr. William Drinker had come on, at that time, to look at lands for which he was agent, and young Lyons undertook to get him and his trunk through to Harmony, from Great Bend. After traveling about six miles in the wagon, they were obliged to remove the fore wheels, and strap the trunk to the hind ones; then jumping the horse over the logs plentifully scattered in the path, and lifting the wheels, the journey was made to a point opposite Mr. Hilborn's. Here they put two canoes together, covering them with plank, and on this frail conveyance, horse, trunk, the boy, and Mr. Drinker, passed over the river in safety.

In 1818, Martin Lane came to Harmony, and bought of John Comfort the Pickering homestead. In early times, there were seven Indian apple trees on this farm. Within a few years arrow-heads have been found here, and clay pipes have been washed out of the banks by freshets in the river.

Martin L. died in 1825, aged forty-seven. His son Jesse was appointed justice of the peace for Harmony the same year. He now resides in Wilmington, Delaware, and all the Lane family are gone.

For a long time after Mr. Lane located here, the place was known as Lanesville; but in 1829 it was changed to Lanesboro. It is three miles from the north line of the State, and was the central point of old Harmony.

As early as 1820, James Newman and Josiah Benedict lived a few miles up the Starucca.

Joel Salsbury then lived near the State line above the falls of Pig-pen Creek. These falls are fifteen feet high, and a more classic name would befit their beauty.

The number of taxables in Harmony (including Oakland) in 1820, when David Hale was tax-collector, was twenty-eight; the year previous but twenty-five; and the amount of his duplicate, as per receipt but \$51.89, at five mills on the dollar of valuation. For several years in succession, previous to this time, Jesse, oldest son of Isaac Hale, was collector. In 1819,

one man's tax was but six cents, another's seven, and another's eight cents. The heaviest tax-payers were John Hilborn and Martin Lane, but even they paid less than nine dollars. Still, meager as such sums seem beside those now demanded of property-holders, there was not wanting, at least a few years later, plenty of grumbling, as is witnessed by a political document forwarded by Mr. Hale, which was circulated for campaign effect, and in which is the following: "Year after year THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS are wrung from the pockets of our citizens in the shape of TAXES, and what have we obtained in return? *Nothing*, comparatively speaking, *NOTHING!*" But all this was expected to be rectified, if the candidates then offered, viz., Horace Williston, Esq., for Congress, and William Jessup for Representative, could be elected. Alas! they were defeated.

On the old Harmony road about one and a half or two miles from Lane's, Oliver Harper was murdered by Jason Treadwell, May 11, 1824. Travelers are still shown the poplar tree near the fatal spot, on which the initials "O. H." are rudely carved; also, "Pot-rock," etc.

John Rogers located Sept. 1825, on an elevated spot just south of the river road, near where it turns abruptly north, and west of the Canawacta; and still occupies the same farm, a part of the old Wharton tract.

In 1825, David Lyons occupied a house four miles up the Canawacta, which was the only one between the mouth of the creek and Collins Gelatt's, seven miles south.

Joseph Austin soon after located near Mr. Lyons. The latter is now on a part of the old Lane farm.

Lane's Mills, rebuilt in part, are now run by Elias Youngs and H. Perrine.

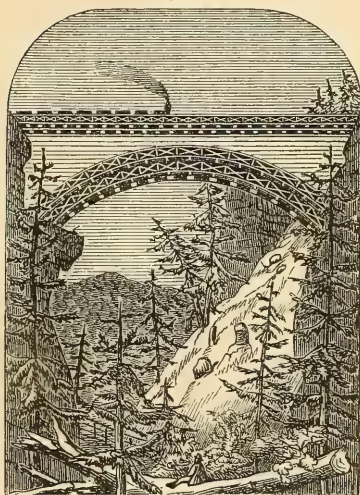
The first public movement towards the erection of a bridge across the Susquehanna at Lanesboro was made in the summer of 1836. It was built in 1837, and was destroyed by a freshet.

As late as 1846, the town consisted of but one hotel, the mills, one store, and a cluster of houses; but during the construction of the great works of the Erie Railroad at this point, it became quite a business place. From the time of the completion of that road, which passes over the Canawacta bridge above the houses of Lanesboro, its business has been in part transferred to the depot one mile south of it. Twenty-five years ago, the vicinity of Lanesboro, and especially that of Cascade Creek, was a favorite resort for parties of pleasure. Its trout were unsurpassed, and its falls a charming feature of otherwise picturesque scenery.

The traveler does not now find the locality as attractive as formerly. The practical demands of the age have invaded its seclusion, cut down the tangled wildwood, thrown an embank-

ment across the stream near the foot of the falls, and in a great measure filled the basin into which the creek pours in a double stream, so parted as to fall at nearly a right angle. The cascade seems to have lost in height and in volume. Through the

Fig. 12.

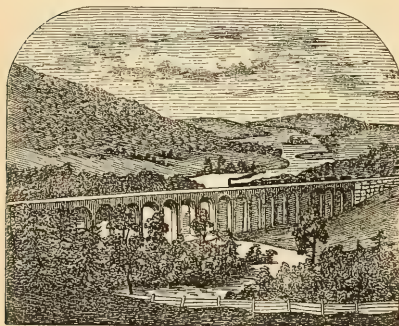


THE CASCADE BRIDGE.

rocks and stones underlying the embankment, the creek still finds its way, except in seasons of high water, when its current is turned aside through a tunnel excavated $16\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide through solid rock. Prior to the construction of the embankment, the New York and Erie Railroad company spanned the stream with a single wooden arch, 276 feet in length and 184 feet in height. Fears of its reliability induced the company to sacrifice the beautiful structure, the original cost of which was about \$160,000, and fill up the entire space beneath, at an expense of about \$275,000, taking ten years to accomplish it. A view of the old bridge is

here given. Near the mouth of the Starucca, the same company constructed a work of vaster proportions, and more massive magnificence. The railroad track is laid upon 18 arches supported upon 19 piers of solid masonry, 110 feet in height, and

Fig. 13.



THE STARUCCA VIADUCT.

extending across the stream and valley a distance of 1200 feet.

The "false-work" of each of the arches cost \$1600, and to remove it cost \$100 more. The entire cost of the viaduct was about \$325,000. It was built in two and a half years.

The cranberry marsh of Messrs. Miller, Morton, Emory, and Rowley, is a recent enterprise near the cascade.

The manufactory of turbine water-wheels, mill and tannery gearing, etc., of Messrs. A. & S. H. Barnes & Company is at Lanesboro. Also, the manu-

factory of an excellent wagon-jack, on an extensive scale, by C. S. Bennet & Co.

There is a German settlement in what was once called East Harmony, where, October, 1869, a post-office was established, called Harmony Center, H. W. Brandt, P. M. (In 1872, a depot of the Jefferson Railroad.) Something of its enterprise in March, 1871, may be seen from the following article from the 'Montrose Republican':—

"UP THE STARUCCA CREEK.—Those who have never had the privilege or embraced the opportunity of visiting this section of the county, to look upon the wild scenery, the rough, rugged, sharp-pointed rocks, the alpine mountains, the deep gorges, and the general uneven surface, may be interested in a brief description of the observations of a newspaper correspondent on the occasion of a carriage ride of five miles up that remarkable creek. Half a mile above the village of Lanesboro we came to the small wooden bridge across the river leading up the river to Windsor. Turning a short angle at this point, we passed up the creek under the broad high arch of the Starucca viaduct of the Erie Railway.

"As we move along and enter the valley, with vast mountains on either side of us, we come to Brandt & Schlager's tannery,¹ forty feet above the viaduct; and if we were to judge of the amount of business done by the abundance of hemlock bark banked up in such perfect order, it must be enormous. There are several dwelling-houses for the accommodation of employés, and one store, connected with which is a beautiful residence, partly in the rear of the store, at some little distance from the road. At our right, far above us on the hillside, is the Jefferson Railroad, recently built for the purpose of transporting coal from Carbondale. A little further on, we come to the line of the new railroad to Nineveh, connecting the Jefferson and Albany roads. The grading across the valley has already commenced—indicated by high gravel banks.

"We are now crossing the Starucca nearly a mile above, on a good substantial bridge 150 feet in length, and our attention being drawn to the opposite side of the creek, we see a few laborers at work on the new road as it runs along the mountain fifty feet directly beneath the Jefferson. One mile above this point is the junction; a short distance below, the extensive chair factory of Messrs. Fromer & Schlager. Here we find a short turn in the road, and soon come to the old tannery of Messrs. Brandt & Schlager. This firm have been doing a heavy business in this line of trade for the last fifteen years; in fact they are the pioneers in what is now known as Harmony Center, and one of the most romantic and wonder-loving spots imaginable; and certainly the artist who has never visited this wild wilderness place, with its high forest-covered mountains, sharp-pointed hills, deep gorges, mossy rocks, bright sparkling water, waterfalls, and the ten-acre valley, must assuredly have never heard there was such a place. Quite a little village has grown up in the vicinity of the tannery, several elegant dwellings, and a model school-house, with its bell and appropriate adornments. Half a mile farther up the creek, near the old stone quarry which furnished stone for the viaduct, is the acid factory of Curtis, Miller & Co. This has been in operation several years, and has the appearance of doing a paying business. Several hands find employment. Hard wood only is used in the manufacture of this acid or coloring material, large quantities of which are made use of in the manufacture of calicoes. The acid is a hard, dry, brittle, dark-colored substance, and is sent to market in large coarse sacks—Messrs. Gauts & Co., New York

¹ Since destroyed by fire.

commission merchants, receive all they manufacture. In the process of manufacturing, forty-eight cords of wood are consumed every week. The combustible portion of the wood is not destroyed, and large quantities of charcoal are produced as a residuum."

The village of Starucca lies in the narrow valley through which the stream of the same name runs, but is situated just beyond the limits of Susquehanna, in Wayne County. The Jefferson Railroad in following the wide sweep of this winding creek, passes near the village, to which it has given new life and impetus. The station is in Susquehanna County.

The construction of the Lackawanna and Susquehanna Railroad has increased business at Lanesboro. A foundry is in active operation. Some years ago a yacht was built here for carrying passengers to and from Windsor, but navigation of the river was found impracticable.

A fine buck was shot five miles up the Starucca Creek, in November, 1871.

CHAPTER IX.

OAKLAND.

THE settlement of the last township of Susquehanna County was nearly coeval with that of the first, of which, in fact, it formed a part until the erection of Harmony. It was separated from the latter, December, 1853.

Oakland is six and one-half miles in extent, north and south, by two miles on the State line, and nearly three miles on the line of Jackson. The eastern boundary is formed by the Susquehanna River, and the Lenox and Harmony turnpike just east of Drinker's Creek.

Full one-half of the township is covered by the Oquago Mountain, which on the south and east slopes nearly to the river, though, in places, the valley widens, and reveals most inviting flats, rich in soil and culture. The tributaries to the Susquehanna are Drinker's Creek, and "3d Run,"¹ on the south side, and Flat Brook, Bear Creek,² and two or three nameless small streams on the north and west sides.

The fall in the river below Lanesboro is so rapid, that the water seldom freezes over entirely; and the immense volume which here breaks through the northern spur of the Alleghany

¹ So marked by early surveyors, by whom the Canawacta was called the 1st Run, Drinker's Creek the 2d, and John Travis' Brook the 3d.

² So named from early encounters of settlers with bears near it.

Mountains furnishes almost unrivalled privileges for manufacturing establishments. The river crosses the township from east to west, and the traveler can follow its course six miles within the township limits.

Half a dozen islands dot the stream within a distance of three miles. What is called the Upper Island is near the mouth of Bear Creek. Gulf Island is just below the passenger bridge connecting the borough of Susquehanna Depot with Oakland village; and Lovers' Island, the favorite resort of young people, is at the crossing of the railroad bridge below.

Gulf Island was so named because it is situated near the mouth of the Canawacta, which enters the Susquehanna river through a deep gully.

There are no lakes in the township.

The name is derived from the forests of oak north of the river. Pine is also found there; but, south of the river, the timber is principally hemlock, maple, beech, and hickory. Old settlers mention hemlock-spruce; such a graft not being uncommon.

Turkey Hill is the elevation south of where the river begins to turn northward around the base of Oquago Mountain.

A stone-quarry, of some prospective value, has been recently opened near Drinker's Creek.

Ichabod Swamp, about four miles north of Susquehanna Depot, near the State line, is a locality once of some note as "a dreadful swamp, thick with hemlock and laurel, and full of paths of wild animals—bears, wolves, and panthers." It takes its name from the fact that here Captain Ichabod Buck was once lost, but fought his way out to the river with only a jack-knife for a weapon.

A natural cranberry marsh is found about a mile north of Susquehanna Depot. Bear Creek is its outlet. The marsh is indicated on a survey made in 1785. It is said that the Indians found lead here.

Prior to 1788 there was not a house in Oakland, but this date marks the arrival of Jonathan Bennet, who stopped here for a short time before settling two miles below Great Bend.

In 1791 William Smith, sometimes called "Governor" Smith, was located on the flat now owned and occupied by Levi Westfall,¹ whose father, James, about 1800, bought whatever title to it Mr. Smith held. It is said the latter had obtained it of Moses Comstock, his father-in-law, who then lived on the east side of the river, exactly opposite. On the west side the flat is inclosed in the sharp angle formed by the river, which here

¹ Since deceased.

turns abruptly to the west, making in fact the *great bend*, which name, strangely enough, has been given to the point in the township where the river turns northward at a less-marked angle. The spot is one of the few localities in our county where indisputable evidences have been found of its preoccupation by the Indians. On the draft of a survey made by a Pennsylvania agent in 1785, six small wigwams are marked at the point of land just below the western abutment of the old bridge, to designate an old town of the Tuscaroras. Here were found by Mr. Westfall the poles of the wigwams and several pits containing charred corn and an immense quantity of clippings, showing that arrow-heads were manufactured here on a large scale.

William Smith had two sons, Arba and William. All removed to Cincinnati, Cortland County, N. Y. William Greek located very early on the south side of the river, at the mouth of Drinker's Creek. He sold his improvements some years later to Marmaduke Salsbury, who married Clarissa, daughter of William Smith, and after her death married her sister Lydia (the widow Rouse). They had a large family.

John Stid also settled very early on the river in front of what is now known as Shutts' place, and just below the point where the railroad reaches the northern bank. Right opposite, at the mouth of the Third Run, John Travis was located. He claimed the island just below Lovers' Island, and his older brother, Ezekiel, the whole of what has since been the Joseph McKune farm.

When the Pennsylvania landholders looked after their interests here, some of the earliest settlers disappeared, and titles to land procured from them were found defective, necessitating a repurchase by those who remained.

Isaac Hale and Nathaniel Lewis lived near each other, on the north side of the river, as early as 1791. Afterwards, Mr. L. bought a place on the south side, and resided there for many years. The one he vacated was purchased by Samuel Treadwell. It is now owned by L. P. Hinds, Esq. Here Jason, youngest son of Samuel Treadwell, afterwards hung on conviction of the murder of Oliver Harper, lived until his marriage, when he moved into Great Bend Township. The father, prior to residing here, had been located ten or twelve years opposite Red Rock.

Isaac Hale was born March 21, 1763, in Waterbury, Conn. When a boy he was taken by his grandfather to Vermont. He stayed there through the Revolutionary War. After having worked one summer in Connecticut, he concluded to try "the West." At Ouaquago (now Windsor, N. Y.), he found Major

Daniel Buck, afterwards "Priest" Buck, with whom he boarded. His son David¹ says:—

"He was to furnish the meat, and the major the breadstuff—frost-bitten corn—to be pounded in a mortar, as there were then no mills in the country. The first day he went into the woods, he brought home a deer. They shortly afterward moved down the river to the Great Bend, which, as near as I can make out (there is no infallibility in the traditions of the elders), was in the fall of 1787, or thereabout.

"After exploring the country, and getting acquainted with the oldest settlers, viz., Moses Comstock Jonathan Bennett, Deacon Jedediah Adams, etc., he went back to Vermont, and married Elizabeth Lewis, sister of Nathaniel Lewis, who married about the same time Sarah Cole, whose sister, Lorana Cole, afterwards married Timothy Pickering, Jr.

"Well, now for the emigrant train, Isaac Hale and Nathaniel Lewis, with their wives Elizabeth and Sarah. Nathaniel Lewis had a yoke of steers and a cart, on which to carry all their plunder (baggage), a distance of about two hundred and twenty miles from Wells, Rutland County, Vt., to Willingborough,² Luzerne County, Pa. After writing those long names, please let me make a digression. Two hundred and twenty miles—a short distance in the present time—not so then—a small company, but void of fear. They had heard Ethan Allen swear, and so were not afraid of bears. They went through to Pennsylvania, as near as I can make it, in 1790.

"Isaac Hale bought an improvement of Jonathan Bennett. The land he afterward bought of Robert H. Rose, the same place on which I was raised, and on which he lived when I left my native place, and where he was buried."

This place is now occupied by James M. Tillman, in Oakland.

In the summer of 1793, Isaac Hale was one of the viewers of the first roads laid out in Willingborough. He was a great hunter, and made his living principally by procuring game. His sons, also, were hunters. His wife was for fifty years a consistent member of the Methodist church. A lady now living at Lanesboro, who knew her well, says: "I never visited her but I thought I had learned something useful." Her death occurred in 1842, in her seventy-fifth year. Their daughter, Emma, was intelligent, and, that she should marry Joseph Smith, Jr., the Mormon leader, can only be accounted for by supposing "he had bewitched her," as he afterward bewitched the masses.

It is thought that Mr. Hale was a little deluded at first, as well as others, in regard to Joe's prophecy of the existence of precious minerals, when digging was progressing in the vicinity, under the latter's direction, and the party were boarding at Mr. Hale's, but his common sense soon manifested itself, and his disapproval of Joe was notorious. He was a man of forethought and generosity. He would kill the elk, up the Star-

¹ David Hale, of Amboy, Illinois.

² This locality was not then known by this name on the court records. It was in Tioga Township until the following year.

ucca, in the fall, when it was the fattest; make troughs of birch or maple, to hold it when cut up; carry salt on his back, salt the meat, and cover it with bark, held down with heavy stones, and then leave it until the snow came, when he could easily bring it down. The fruit of his labor was sometimes exchanged for assistance on his farm, but perhaps as often found its way, unheralded, to the tables of others, when the occupants of the house were out of sight; and to them the gift seemed almost miraculous.

For many years there stood at Mr. Hale's door a stump-mortar and heavy wooden pestle, worked by a spring pole, and his boys were obliged to leave work an hour or two before dark, to grind out meal enough for mush for their supper. The hand-mill afterwards took the place of the mortar and pestle, and could grind half a bushel in a day—a great improvement.

His sons were: Jesse, David, Alvah, Isaac Ward, and Reuben. The last named "assisted Joe Smith to fix up some characters such as Smith pretended were engraven on his book of plates." To David Hale, however, "it *always* appeared like humbug."

Jesse and David were drafted in 1814, and marched in Captain Frederick Bailey's company to Danville.

The following statements are also from the pen of David Hale:—

"Brother Jesse Hale was a man of business, fifty years ago. His height was six feet in his moccasins, and his common weight one hundred and eighty pounds. He had learned to hunt panthers with our father, Isaac Hale.

"At one time he was following a panther through a thicket of laurels, when the dog sprang over a log into a nest of young panthers. The dog seized one; one run to brother Jesse, who caught it in his hands; it was about the size of a common house-cat. He could have tied it fast, but he thought 'If the old one hears this fuss, she'll soon be here!' so he whipped it against a beech sapling, and helped the dog to dispatch his; then hunted up the other, which was not far off, and killed it.

"The old one did not come, so he stuffed the three young ones into his pack, and went to the camp. The next day he returned, and found the old panther had been back, and, not finding her young ones, had put off, so he started after her. In the course of the day, he came up with and killed her, and packed her to camp.

"After that, he came across two more that he took in the same way; and these, with one wolf and about twenty deer, made out his winter's hunt, fifty-five years ago.

"Jesse Hale raised a large family, viz., six sons and four daughters. He had three sons killed by rebels. They were the younger three, viz., Captain Joab T., who fell at Fort Donelson; Sergeant Frank, who fell at Corinth; and Captain Robert, who fell at Marietta, Georgia.

"His sons, now living, are Silas, Julius, and Charles, all men of property."

From Dr. Peck's 'Early Methodism' we obtain the following:—

"Joe Smith married a niece of Nathaniel Lewis. This same 'Uncle Nat. Lewis' was a most useful local preacher. He was ordained Deacon by Bishop Asbury, in 1807. After the story of the Golden Bible, and the miracle-

working spectacles had come out, Joe undertook to make a convert of Uncle Nat. The old gentleman heard his tale with due gravity, and then proceeded:

“‘Joseph, can anybody else translate strange languages by the help of them spectacles?’

“‘O, yes!’ was the answer.

“‘Well now,’ said Mr Lewis, ‘I’ve got Clarke’s Commentary, and it contains a great many strange languages; now if you will let me try the spectacles, and if, by looking through them, I can translate these strange languages into English, then I’ll be one of your disciples.’

“‘This was a poser, and Joe had to run.’”

Selah Payne was a school teacher here, early in the century. He had been a student in the first school at Ouaquago, and was ambitious to fit himself for teaching. He afterwards became a Methodist preacher, and, it is said, a chaplain to General Jackson during the southern campaign of the war of 1812. He was an eccentric man, but had considerable ability. On a large tract of land (540 acres) which he purchased near Ichabod Swamp, he designed a kind of African college; but, after laying the foundation,¹ the enterprise was abandoned for want of funds, and Mr. Payne left the place. The tract passed through several hands, and all the timber was cut down and shipped off. Within a few years Mr. P. returned, and was killed by being run over by a train of cars near Susquehanna Depot. His wife was a daughter of Judge McAllister.

Joseph McKune, Sr., came in 1810 to the place first occupied by Ezekiel Travis, near the burying ground. He died about 1851. Joseph McKune, Jr., located on the Belmont turnpike in 1825, but in 1832 came to the place previously occupied by his father in Oakland, and died here in 1861. It was on this farm that Joe Smith translated the Mormon Bible. It is now occupied by B. F. McKune, son of Joseph, Jr.

The sons of Joseph McK., Sen., were Robert, Joshua, Joseph, Charles, William, Hezekiah (now in Illinois and the only son living), John, and Fowler. He had five daughters.

Dr. Israel Skinner and his twin-brother Jacob, came in 1814 to the farms adjoining or lying on the line between Great Bend and the present township of Oakland (then Harmony). Dr. S. is remembered as the author of a ‘History of the American Revolution in Verse.’

Jonathan Brush came in 1819; and his brother Ard, in 1820.

Ard was accompanied by his son Samuel, who is still living on the homestead, near the line of Jackson. At a recent gathering there of his friends, among whom were old settlers and pioneers of the vicinity, he exhibited “a stuffed panther skin that looked enough like life to frighten even dogs.” It is said he “never looked amiss along his rifle-barrel, and never had an

¹ This is incorrectly marked on the new atlas, as “Foundation of the first Mormon Temple.”

unsteady hand. The skin exhibited measured fully nine feet from head to tail."

Jairus Lamb, one of the first three pioneers of Jackson township, has been for several years a resident of Oakland. His wife, Mrs. Betsey Lamb, during the four years prior to her 80th birthday, wove sixteen hundred yards of cloth, besides attending to the duties of her household. On her 80th birthday, which was celebrated by her children at the residence of C. W. Lamb, Esq., she wove four yards of plaid flannel. During the month closing July 8, 1869, she cut and sewed the rags, doubled and twisted the warp, and wove twenty-three yards of carpeting. In her 82d year, she wove two hundred yards.

If, with her day and generation, the necessity for such labor passes away, one can never cease to admire the industry and patience exhibited in their achievements.

SUSQUEHANNA DEPOT.

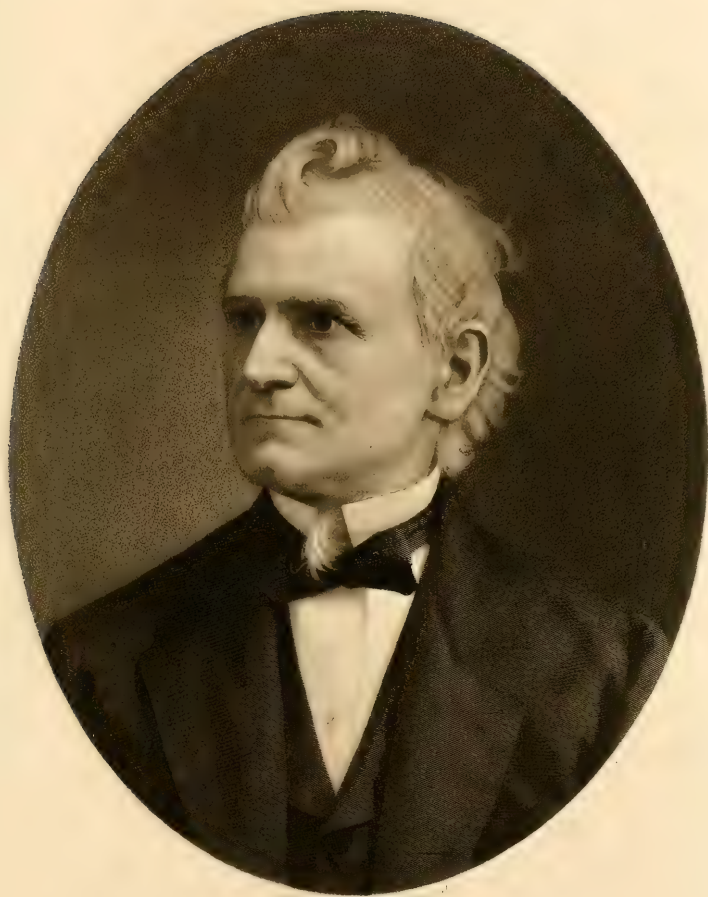
This borough was incorporated August, 1853. It is an outgrowth of the Erie Railroad, the ground for which was broken here in 1846.

The first *clearing* was made by William Greek, late in the last century, and his improvements passed to M. Salsbury, as previously stated. But the only legal title to the land was then held by Henry Drinker of Philadelphia. It was purchased by him from the Commonwealth, Dec. 1794, and from his executors, by John Hilborn, January, 1810, and from the latter, two months later, by Marmaduke Salsbury, who lived on it about twenty-five years. At his death, it passed to his heirs, and eventually (June, 1847—July, 1852) it was sold by one or more of them to the New York and Erie Railroad Company.

From the above tract (118 acres and some perches), styled Pleasant Valley on the surveyor's map, sixty-three acres and a little over should be deducted as having been conveyed by M. Salsbury to J. H. Reynolds, and by him to William B. Stoddard. Possibly that portion of the town including the property of the Roman Catholic church should be excluded also, as once a part of Wm. P. McKune's land.

Sedate Griswold, formerly owner of a large tract within the borough limits, died here recently.

"On the site of Susquehanna Depot, one single farmer had sufficient work in 1848, the summer through, to guard against the encroachments of rattlesnakes that sung in his barn, and made music in his hay fields." Twelve years later a population of 2000 persons had apparently driven the reptiles from the place, but not from its neighborhood, which in 1870 they still infest.



James A. Guff

The borough has one street which runs in the valley, following nearly the course of the Susquehanna; the streets parallel to it are reached by steep acclivities, or by long staircases between the blocks of buildings. It well deserves the title it has received—the City of Stairs. It is said that some of the Erie employés go up to dinner two hundred feet above their work.

For a time after the Erie Railroad was finished, the population decreased, but it now gains steadily. Americans, English, Irish, and Germans are found numerically as named, with a few Italians and Poles. Many of the machinists in the Erie workshops are English.

JAMES B. GREGG, Master Mechanic of the Erie Railroad shops, is a native of Delaware, and is of Quaker parentage. The homestead was in New Castle County, near Wilmington.

He attended the State common schools until he was seventeen years of age, at which time he persuaded his father to permit him to learn the machinist trade, rather than pursue farming, to which he was brought up. His father procured him a position, though reluctantly, in the extensive machine shop of Geo. Hodgson, an Englishman, in Wilmington, Del.

At the expiration of his apprenticeship, in 1836, he attended school for three years; one and a half years under the tuition of Jonathan Gause, near West Chester, Pa.; and the same time at the High School of John Gummere at Burlington, N. J. These teachers were Quakers; and the schools were noted in their day as first-class schools, where young men could procure a thorough practical business education, including the languages if desired.

Mr. Gregg then spent one year in traveling in the Western States, and on his return was appointed general Foreman of the Piermont shop, the only one then on the New York and Erie Railroad. Here he remained until 1851. He was then promoted to the office of Superintendent of Motive Power at Susquehanna Depot.

This place is 195 miles from New York city, and 274 miles from Dunkirk.

The following is from correspondence of the 'Broome Republican,' May, 1859:—

"The shops were located here in the summer of 1848. The buildings were then few and small. In 1854, they covered five acres, and in 1859, 350 men were employed, doing the work for 319 miles of the road. The capital then invested in the shop machinery was about \$200,000. Sub-shops were stationed at Canandaigua, Owego, Hornellsville, and Port Jervis, of all which, Mr. Gregg was the superintendent.

"In the Susquehanna shops, there are sixteen departments of labor; each of which has its foreman, who has, in the performance of his duties, absolute control of all that pertains to his branch of business; subject of course to the general foreman of the shop. He is not only required to see that every piece of work that leaves his department is perfect in itself, but is held individually responsible for the material used in its manufacture. Nor is the foreman alone responsible. There are in the several departments what are termed 'gangs,' over whom presides a subordinate foreman appointed to attend some particular job.

"Admirable system is observed in the general management and discipline that prevail throughout the shops. The care of tools is so secured as to insure the company from the consequences of any neglect on the part of their employés.

"In 1856 the steam hammer was introduced into the Susquehanna shops; in 1857, there were two hammers only, and the saving, in being able to manufacture their own material, was estimated at \$25,000 for one year."

In response to inquiries respecting later work here, Mr. Gregg kindly furnishes the following statements:—

"I continued to increase our facilities for doing work by erecting additional buildings from time to time, as business increased, until it was found, in 1862, of pressing necessity, and from the great danger of our *then* wooden buildings being destroyed by fire, to construct still larger and more durable buildings.

"At the request of the general superintendent, Mr. Minot, I furnished ground-plans for the construction of such shop buildings as would meet not only the then greatly increased wants of the company, but all future contingencies. These plans were laid before the board of directors, and in due time were accepted and adopted. The buildings were commenced in 1863 and finished in 1865, at a cost of \$1,250,000; the tools and machinery cost, in addition, \$500,000.

"The buildings, covering eight acres, are acknowledged to be the most extensive of their kind in this country, and also the most complete in their arrangements for economizing labor and facilitating work. This is the testimony of railroad men from all parts of this country, as also of our visitors from England.

"I made provision in the construction of the buildings, by consent of the company, for a library and reading-room; and this is now an important institution, as connected with our shop system of management, for the benefit of the employés.

"I also made a like provision for a lecture-room, 42 × 60 feet. Both these rooms the company, upon my recommendation, very generously fitted up, at their own expense, with all necessary furniture, gas fixtures, and steam-heating apparatus.

"The library, which is 'circulating,' contains about 2500 volumes of well-selected, miscellaneous works, and is *growing* at the rate of 400 to 500 volumes annually. Our subscription for daily, weekly, and monthly reading matter, for the supply of the table for daily reading, is about \$120 per year.

"I cannot speak of this library and reading-room in terms of too great praise, as an agent in the building up of good citizenship in our community. The books are read at about an average of 400 volumes per month by perhaps not less than one thousand persons. Each book can be retained fourteen days.

"It is the *only* library, reading-room, and lecture-hall connected with any similar shop or manufactory in the country.

"The number of men employed varies from 650 to 700, as our wants direct. The average amounts of money paid them is about \$38,000 per month, wages being more than doubled within the last dozen years.

"I hazard nothing in declaring it as my opinion that no shop or manufactory of any kind in this country, employing a large body of men, can so truthfully boast of the intelligence and high moral worth possessed by the employés, as of this shop. Nor can any similar number of workmen boast of possessing so large an amount of property or real estate as is actually possessed, and in fee simple owned, by the employés of this shop, which is not less than \$600,000 worth.

"The company originally owned about 300 acres of land, now covered by happy, thrifty homes of Susquehanna Depot. Prior to May, 1859, the company duly appointed me, by act of the board of directors, etc., their agent and attorney for the control and sale of the above property.

"By being careful to employ none but men of exclusively temperate habits

and of good moral character, aside from being good workmen, and by holding out to these men encouragement to purchase lots and build houses for themselves, every lot of the 300 acres is now sold and deeded, and, in addition, our men have purchased largely of adjoining lands.

"The number of steam hammers is now increased to six, and with these I am now supplying forged work, axles, etc., and all iron work for bridges for all parts of the road and its branches. I have also very largely introduced the manufacture of cast-iron drilled wheels for engines and cars for the whole line of the road, the annual number supplied from this shop averaging about 11,000 wheels. In the construction of new locomotives, the rebuilding and repairs of old ones, and, indeed, for the care of the road in all particulars, this shop has now become largely responsible."

Theodore Springsteen is chief clerk; John T. Bourne, store-keeper; and Robert Wallace, general foreman. Forty-six miles of steam pipe heat the Erie shops and depot.

The Sisters of Charity occupy the building erected by Martin Newman, which was once Scoville's hotel. Near this point, the traveler coming north on the Lenox and Harmony turnpike, is suddenly met by a view of scenery remarkably beautiful. Before him is the abrupt bend in the river, and the Ouaquago Mountain, with its southern slope skirted with the new and flourishing village of Oakland. Lanesboro is at the right, and a little beyond, the grand stone bridge or viaduct that spans the valley of the Starucca. Its nineteen piers and eighteen arches are here distinctly seen, and, stretching still beyond the Susquehanna, in its due north course to the State line, is its valley rich in beauty and in the historical interest that gathers around it. The locality has been painted by one of its own residents. (See later page.)

The first four hotels were: J. B. Scoville's, Thomas Carr's, Elliot Benson's, and Robert Nichols'—not one of which was kept up as such in 1869. The Starucca House, near the railroad station, and the Canawacta House, had succeeded them, also the Hotchkiss House on Church Hill.

The churches are the Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, Methodist, Baptist, and Universalist.

L. P. Hinds was the first lawyer who located in the place; John Ward, the first merchant.

William Stamp, of Susquehanna Depot, is the inventor of a new steam-gauge, which is said to be a work of great value.

At present (1872) a city charter is petitioned for. Susquehanna Depot received from the State \$3000 for schools. This allowance was made, partly in consideration of the fact that the place has no revenue from the Erie Railroad property.

The graded school building is a large and fine one, the site of which was selected with a view to accommodate pupils as to distance; but otherwise, it appears unfortunately chosen, on account of the lowness of the ground and the proximity of the railroad shops.

North¹ Susquehanna, or Oakland Village, is connected with Susquehanna Depot by a bridge across the Susquehanna River. This was first built in the fall of 1855, by a stock company, of which Thomas Jackson, M.D., was President, H. C. Godwin, Vice-President, and L. P. Hinds, Secretary. They with F. A. Ward, Levi Westfall, J. B. Scoville, and William W. Skinner, constituted its managers. The original expense was about \$4700. This bridge was carried away by a freshet, and the half of the expense of the one which takes its place was borne by William M. Post.

In 1852 or 1853, the Van Antwerp and Newbury farms, with a part of Elijah Westfall's land, comprising about 400 acres lying north of the river, had been purchased by J. B. Scoville for Messrs. Jackson and Godwin, who laid out fifty or sixty acres in village lots, which they sold to William M. Post in 1857.

Prior to 1864, there was only one road in Oakland Village—the old Ouaquago turnpike—and but one or two farm houses. Five years later, there were three streets between the old turnpike and the river, and three cross-streets of the five laid out were open.

A hotel was built in 1864, near the north end of the bridge, by T. T. Munson, which has since been known as Telford's. After selling the hotel, Mr. Munson established the first store here.

West of the bridge there is a saw and grist-mill; east of it, a sash and blind factory. In 1869, there were about seventy buildings in the village. It now (spring 1872) contains over one hundred houses, and is steadily growing. A neat school-house, with blinds, serves as a place of worship for the Methodist society. A union Sabbath school begun here 1865, by Mrs. William M. Post and Mrs. Cockayne, with eight scholars, numbered over one hundred scholars in four years.

The village is an independent school district. The majority of the residents are Erie Railroad employés.

CHAPTER X.

BROOKLYN.

WHEN first settled, in 1787, the area of Brooklyn was an atom in the vast space allotted to the most northern district of Luzerne County, and which, in 1790, was designated as Tioga

¹ Or *West*, as it is called by the people of Harmony.

township. In 1795 it belonged in part to Nicholson township; in 1806 it was wholly in Bridgewater (then still in Luzerne), and in that portion of it which, at the second term of court after the organization of Susquehanna County, was included within the limits of a township then petitioned for, to be called Waterford. Of the latter, it was proposed the southeast corner should be where the county line crosses Martin's Creek; that the creek, for ten miles, should be its eastern border; thence a line due west five miles, its northern; thence a line running south to Luzerne County (now Wyoming), the western; and thence east to the place of beginning, the southern.

This made the northern boundary nearly on a line with that of Dimock, as since run; but Waterford as finally granted, April, 1814, was *twelve* miles north and south. This brought the northwest corner within two miles of Montrose, and it was soon thought expedient to change it, leaving the residents along the Meshoppen, as far down as Lindsley's or North Pond, still in Bridgewater.

February, 1823, the court changed the name of the town to Hopbottom (that being the name of the post-office, as also of the settlement from an early day); for, as there were already three Waterfords in the State, it caused derangement of the mails. In 1825 a meeting of the citizens was held, and they decided to petition the court and the postmaster-general for a change of name, both of town and post-office, to Brooklyn, with a favorable result.

In 1846, Brooklyn was reduced nearly one-half, by the erection of the township of Lathrop, since which time its limits have remained unchanged.

The Hopbottom Creek, so called from the number of wild hops once found growing in its valley, runs through Brooklyn from north to south, having its source in Heart Lake, between New Milford and Bridgewater, and reaching Martin's creek in the northeast corner of Lathrop.

It is said that "up Martin's Creek a former hunter's range extended (as also to the upper branches of the Wyalusing); the fur of the marten, then abundant, was his chief aim." It is probable the creek derived its name from this circumstance, and that it is incorrectly called Martin's creek.

"Dry" Creek is also a tributary to Martin's Creek in certain seasons.

Horton's Creek has its rise in the western part of the township, and crosses the southern line about midway; thence passes entirely through Lathrop to join the Tunkhannock below. It was once a rival competitor with Martin's Creek for railroad honors.

South Pond (Ely Lake) and the half of North Pond, the latter

on the west line of Brooklyn, and the other near it, are the only lakes of the township.

The surface is very uneven. The traveler over the Owego turnpike (which enters the township at Oakley's and leaves it near its northwest corner) will cross some high hills, and, in going over the road from Kingsley's to the Center, will find those even higher; but here is some of the best land.

SETTLEMENT.

In 1787, John Nicholson, Comptroller of Pennsylvania, and owner of extensive tracts of land throughout the State, attempted to colonize his lands along the Hopbottom; and, in five years, collected about forty Irish and German families from Philadelphia, and "down the Susquehanna." He had agreed to supply them with provisions, for the first year at least, and that they should have the land seven years; the settlers in the mean time to clear what they could, and to build upon each lot a house and barn, and at the end of seven years to have the first right of purchase at the price the land might then be worth.

Adam Miller, a Protestant Irishman, though part of his life had been spent with a Roman Catholic priest, had married a cousin of Nicholson, and both were persuaded by him to come to his Hopbottom lands in 1787. At the end of one year they became discouraged, and Nicholson, to induce them to stay, deeded to Mrs. Miller 175 acres of land.

Mrs. Miller's maiden name was Elinor Nichaelson, as the name was spelled in the old country. Her father was a brother of John Nicholson's father, and a Welshman; her mother was an Englishwoman.

Mrs. Fox, a Dutchwoman among the colonists, once complained to Mrs. Miller of their fare, when the latter responded: "Peggy, we ought to thank the Lord that we have enough such as it is." But "Peggy" could not assent, and replied: "Do you really believe anybody under the heavens ever thanked the Lord for johnny-cake?"

The eldest child of Adam Miller is now living (1870) in Michigan, in her eighty-fourth year, and she was about one year old when her parents came to what is now Brooklyn, and was just three years old when her brother William was born there, December, 1789. His was the first birth in this county, so far as has come to the knowledge of the compiler.

Elder Charles Miller, for many years a minister in Clifford, was also born on the Hopbottom, March 20, 1793. His sister Anna Maria, now the widow of John Wells, was born there in 1795, and was in her fifth year when her parents with their family went to Ohio. They returned the same season to Tunk-

hannock, and, early in the spring of 1800, reached Clifford Corners, in the vicinity of which they lived and died. (See CLIFFORD.)

Richard McNamara and Robert Patterson came in 1787. The latter is buried in Brooklyn.

William Conrad (or Coonrod, as then pronounced) was among the earliest of Nicholson's colonists. He was one of the Hessians employed by Great Britain in the Revolutionary War. All the time he had to prepare for the expedition was less than twenty-four hours, and then he left home and country forever. He supposed the expedition was designed only to go to England; but, when there, it was joined by the British fleet and sailed for America. The next year he was with Lord Howe at Philadelphia. The Hessians were then told, that if they deserted to the Yankees, they would be killed and eaten up. Conrad, however, made his escape, and the first American officer he met gave him a dollar. He soon found inhabitants with whom he could converse in his own language, one of whom, Page, accompanied him to this section. Hardships of every kind awaited the family of Conrad here. Their first home was under the shelter of a hemlock root, where one of his children was born. He stayed in Brooklyn long enough to make a small clearing, build a log-house, and set out an orchard on the farm afterwards owned by Andrew Tracy, Esq., and then removed to Harford, where he lived more than forty years, and where he died. A son of his is still living in the county, a little east of Hopbottom village; and another branch of the family is living at South Gibson.

Little is known of those who came in 1787, with the exception of a few persons. Mrs. Wells (mentioned above) states, that a physician, whose name was Caperton, accompanied the first settlers, and that he, Mr. Fox, and Mr. John Robinson, were her father's near neighbors.

The majority of these known as "the Nicholson settlers" were Irish, and their locality was called *the Irish Settlement* by the settlers of Great Bend and "Nine Partners." Nicholson had furnished teams, a quantity of "sugar kettles" for boiling sap, and erected a log grist-mill (about sixty rods below Whipple's present saw-mill), but failed to supply provisions as he had agreed; the families, being left to care for themselves, suffered much from want, and not knowing how to manage in the wilderness, became discouraged, and after a few years abandoned the settlement.

Among the few whose names are connected with the improvements purchased by the New Englanders, there were, besides the settlers already given, another Conrad, Trout, McIntyre, and Denison.

John Jones, a well-educated Welshman, came from Northumberland, 1790-2, and became a sort of superintendent of the settlement. His family consisted of his wife (formerly Mrs. Milbourne), and his stepson, Bloomfield Milbourne, with their three daughters, Nancy, Betsy, and Polly. The last-named died in 1802. Nancy became the wife of Samuel Howard, a later comer, and Betsy, of John C. Sweet, of Harford.

A son of one of the earliest New England settlers in Brooklyn (J. Sabin) narrated the following incident:—

“I remember one time Mr. Jones went to Wilkes-Barre, forty miles away; bought two five-pail kettles, in which to boil sap, hung them astride his mare, drove her before him, and walked himself. When he had nearly reached home, some brush caught in the legs of the kettles, which so frightened the beast she ran into the woods and broke them both.”

In 1792 Mark Hartley, of Scotch descent but of Irish birth, and then living at Northumberland, was induced by Nicholson to join the Hopbottom colony. He was accompanied by his wife and two children, Mark and William, the latter only eight weeks old, now Esquire Hartley, of Lenox. He remained less than five years in the settlement before removing to the vicinity of Glenwood.

From 1792-95 the last of the Nicholson colonists came. They were William Harkins, James Coil (to Adam Miller's clearing), and Prince Perkins (colored), with his son William, and two grandchildren. Prince had been the slave of Captain — Perkins, of Connecticut (the great-grandfather of C. S. Perkins, now of Brooklyn), but as he became a freeholder, and spent his life in the township, his history forms a part of it. He came from near the mouth of the Tunkhannock, after acquiring his freedom in Connecticut by the laws of the State.

Denman Coe and Wright Chamberlain, from Connecticut, were on the Hopbottom, in 1795. (See Gibson.) James Coil removed after a few years to Clifford. [The *location* of the Nicholson settlers can best be given in connection with that of the New Englanders.]

On the failure of John Nicholson, his lands in the Hopbottom settlement passed into the hands of John B. Wallace, of Philadelphia, and from him, in 1818, to Thomas B. Overton, then of Wilkes-Barre. A portion of the lands of Brooklyn belonged to the Drinker estate.

The earliest New England settlers came to this section supposing themselves to have clear titles to land under the “Connecticut Delaware Purchase.” Prior to locating on the Hopbottom, Joseph Chapman—a sea-captain, who had made fifty voyages to the West Indies—and his son Joseph, from Norwich, Ct., had begun an improvement on their purchase in Dimock, or

"Chebur," as that town was then named, on Connecticut surveys. But, as there was no building on their land, they procured an improvement in the adjacent town of "Dandolo"; the section including the Irish settlement or Nicholson colony, and in the fall of the same year (1798) Captain Chapman brought his family to the log cabin vacated by John Robinson. He remained here until the spring of 1800, when with his wife and his sons Isaac A. and Edward, and his daughters Elizabeth and Lydia, he removed to the house, which he in the mean time had built on his place in Chebur.

The only child of his first wife, Joseph Chapman, Jr., remained upon the Hopbottom place, but was not then without neighbors, from one to three miles away, nor many months without a companion.

The incoming of Andrew Tracy can best be given in his own words, though fully to understand his position, the reader must be informed that he was Secretary and Recorder of the Connecticut Delaware first Company, and that this was the final effort of the Connecticut claimants under the Indian Delaware Purchase to obtain possession. Captain Peleg Tracy, his eldest son, appears to have purchased the first improvements of Messrs. Jones and Milbourne, on the present farm of Obadiah and W. P. Bailey, as early as his father secured those of William Conrad, the place a little north of Brooklyn Center, which is now owned by Jared Baker; but he did not come to occupy it until two weeks after his father's arrival with his family.

DIARY OF ANDREW TRACY, Esq.

"1798, August 21st, I set out from Norwich (Ct.), with my son Edwin (Leonard E.) for the Delaware Purchase, and we arrived at Dandolo the 30th inst., at Mr. Milbourne's; the 31st at Chebur; 1st Sept. at Mr. Brownson's at Rindaw; where we waited for Mr. E. Hyde till the 11th, and the 12th left there and went to view the Manor, etc. On the 14th took possession of Coonrod Castle with the premises. We sowed about four bushels wheat and rye, and rolled up a log-house, two logs above the chamber floor; and on the 11th November set off for Norwich.

"On the 8th January 1799, sent off my team, and on the 11th set out with my family for our seat in Dandolo, and got to Peleg's place on the 6th of February, after a long and expensive journey of 28 days. We left Peleg's house about the 5th of March, and then moved into the castle—it was thirteen feet square—having eleven in the family steady, until the 4th of July, and then we moved into the new house to celebrate the day of American Independence, and had about 40 persons to dine."

The foregoing appears to have been written at the same time with what follows in the diary down to July 1801. To account in part for the large number of "persons to dine," it is here noted, that Captain Tracy was married and had three children when he settled in Hopbottom; and that his wife was accompanied by her sister Betsey Leffingwell. Capt. Chapman's family

were still in Brooklyn. Charles Miner may also have been of the party, since he came to this section with Capt Tracy. "Coonrod Castle" then contained three "sets" of children; five were the children of Esq. Tracy's first wife, and four were those of Mrs. Tracy and her first husband, Amaziah Weston; while the youngest, then an infant (now Mrs. Warner Hayden of New Milford), was hers and Esq. Tracy's. On the arrival of the Tracy family at Martin's Creek, they were met by Capt. Chapman, who bore her in his arms the remainder of their journey.

But to return to the diary:—

"The last winter (1799-1800) was very hard and severe; snow that fell during the first week in November lay until May. We had about 12 inches of snow on the first of April, and there fell a snow 9 or 10 inches deep, and on the 8th, near as much more, and on the 2d of May we had a snow fall so as to make the ground look white. The hard winter was followed by a severe drought, which was the means of my going to French Town [now in Bradford Co.], three times after grain, and once down the Tunkhannock, and so up the Susquehanna to the Wyalusing, and so home with four bushels wheat and rye. On my way home, I got within half a mile of Joseph Chapman's house, when it being very dark and rainy, my horse became frightened, and ran into the woods; and I was under the necessity of lying there all night, not having so much as an old log or anything but a small beech to screen me from the storm, which was incessant all night. As soon as the daylight appeared, I found the path, and then proceeded on to Capt. Chapman's where I got half an hour before sunrise, not having had any sleep, but very wet and cold. After dinner I set out with my load for home.

"June 6th, 1800, occurred a very great frost that killed corn, beans, pumpkins, cucumbers, etc."

Under date of July 26, 1801, he mentions a frost which killed some things.

August 5th, following, he adds: "Rev. Jacob Crane, a missionary from New York, preached a sermon at my house, to about 40 hearers." On the 21st of the same month, he mentions his own son-in-law Thompson, who preached two sermons that day at the same place. August 25th, there was "a frost that killed everything subject to frost." On the 12th and 13th of September following there was also "some frost." This was the last entry of his diary.

Andrew Tracy, Esq., died Nov. 1, 1801.

In 1801, Captain P. Tracy sold his place with the house which Messrs. Jones and Milbourne had built in 1790, to Captain Amos Bailey. Traces of the ruins of the house are still to be seen near the spring, in the orchard of O. Bailey; where there are trees set out by the first occupants, which are still bearing. Captain Tracy then went to the clearing first made by William Harkins, where H. W. Kent now resides; but remained there only two or three years before removing to Wilkes-Barre. All of the first family of Andrew Tracy, Esq., left the town soon after his death, except his son Leonard who died here in 1802.

The widow of A. Tracy with her children, Samuel, Mary, William, and John Weston, and Sally and Andrew Tracy (the last named born soon after his father's death) continued to reside at the homestead until her marriage with Deacon Joshua Miles. She died in 1856. Her son Andrew, after his marriage removed to Marathon, N. Y. Sally (Mrs. Hayden) says: "I have often heard my mother speak of the good old time when we lived in Coonrod Castle, and took the door from the hinges and laid it on barrels for a table, before we could get any made."

Samuel and Mary Weston were early teachers in Brooklyn; William, father of E. A. Weston, died here in 1853; John is a physician in Towanda, Pa.

Charles Miner did not take up land in the vicinity of the Chapmans and Tracys, but his associations with them, in 1799, permit us to copy a few items from a letter written by him about fifty years later:—

"On the 12th of Feb. 1779, in company with Captain Peleg Tracy, his brother Leonard, and Miss Lydia Chapman in one sleigh; Mr John Chase of Newburyport and myself in another; set out from Norwich, Ct., and arrived at Hopbottom the 28th. The snow left us the first night, when we were only twelve miles on our way, and we were obliged to place our sleighs on trundle wheels. Our cheerful, undaunted female friend, through the patience-trying journey of sixteen days (never a tear, a murmur, or a sigh) lived to see her grandchildren, the children of an eminent judge of the Supreme Court."

After selling to Captain Tracy, Mr. Jones made a small improvement where James Adams 1st, now lives. This he sold in 1813, to Latham A. Smith. Mr. and Mrs. J. spent their later years near Mrs. Milbourne, in a house of which the logs were cut by Mr. Jones, though younger men rolled them up. After Mrs. J.'s death, in 1822, he lived with his son-in-law, S. Howard, and died in Brooklyn, in 1834, aged 91.

Bloomfield Milbourne, after he and Mr. Jones left their first location, took possession of the place to which Mr. Fox had come in 1787. An old apple-tree is still pointed out as near the site of his log cabin, on the farm now owned by Lyman Tiffany. The road from McIntyre Hill to Martin's Creek passes the place. It was cut through one early 4th of July, as a holiday job, by Capt. Joshua Sabin, his son Jonathan, Jos. Chapman, Jr., and others; no whiskey was drank on the occasion.

He is remembered as a very honest, kind-hearted, and obliging man, and very fond of a practical joke. He was acknowledged to be "the greatest chopper in town," and was also "a dead shot" with the rifle.

He married a daughter of Isaac Tewksbury, and spent the remainder of his days upon the Fox place. He died in 1839, aged 68.

Richard McNamara's improvements were purchased by Capt. Joshua Sabin, an account of whose settlement is here given, in the words of his son, in a letter to J. W. Chapman, Esq.:—

"In the spring of 1799, Ezekiel Hyde, a land speculator from Connecticut, came to my father, who was living in Otsego County, on the left bank of the Susquehanna, 70 miles above Great Bend, and told him that he would sell him 800 acres of land in Hopbottom. My father accompanied him to H., and bought out McNamara, who gave possession immediately. Then my father came back and took my oldest sister, and my brothers Lyman and Aaron, and some household furniture, and moved them to Hopbottom. He bought a cow, and left them to keep house for the summer. He had sold his farm on the river, but had the use of it that year. He was late in getting to Hopbottom to mow the grass, and your grandfather Chapman and your father mowed and stacked the hay. In September, my father lashed his two canoes together, and, loaded with household goods (including a loom, etc.), and also a number of apple-trees large enough to set, took me, and went down to Great Bend. He there buried the roots of the trees in the ground for the winter, and then we started together for Hopbottom, on the Newburgh road (the turnpike afterwards built nearly on the same line), seven miles through the woods to the first house, which was Corbett's tavern (now Phinney's in N. M.), where we halted. I went into the barn, and saw a pair of elk horns on the floor. They were standing on four points, and I took off my hat and walked between the horns under the skull, and as I stood erect under the horns they just touched my hair. (My height was 5 feet 10 inches.) There I saw also a tame elk among the cattle.

"We went on to Hopbottom by way of a town then called 'Nine Partners.' When we reached our destination, I was heartsick with the place; but I became more reconciled when I became acquainted with your father and your uncles Edward and Isaac, and your aunts Lydia and Polly. Your grandfather had bought a new place about eight miles from there (in Chebur), and wished me to go with him to visit it. He had already built a house on it, and a family named Myers had moved into it till they could build.

"Mrs. Myers was very glad to see him, and said, 'Captain Chapman, have you any snuff?' He told her he had plenty, and she said she 'had *suffered so for snuff*' that if she had 'this house full of *gould*' she 'would give it all for one pinch of snuff.'

"I helped him fence his ground, and sow and drag in three acres of wheat, and I returned home Saturday night.

"My father went back up the river, and left my oldest sister, myself, and Aaron to keep the house. He was down twice during the winter."

Capt. Sabin's family then consisted of his wife and eight children. The letter continues:—

"The whole family moved down, in March, 1800, in sleighs. They crossed the river twice on the ice, and drove the cattle and sheep. They reached the new home the last week in March. The most of the stock, consisting of 9 horses, 60 head of cattle, and 20 sheep, was turned over to Hyde for land, which father lost because he failed to get a good title."

From another letter to the same, written nearly twelve years ago, we learn that Capt. Joshua Sabin was born in Dutchess County, N. Y. He served in the Revolutionary army as captain under Washington, and at the close of the war settled in Rensselaer County, N. Y., and received an appointment as jus-

tice. He afterwards rented his farm there, while he lived in Otsego County, where Ezekiel Hyde found him.

He became so disheartened after losing his property through the Connecticut land speculation, that after about four years' residence in Hopbottom he returned to his old home in Rensselaer County, where he spent the remainder of his days (17 years) in tranquillity.

His eleventh child, and the only one born in Susquehanna County, had been named after Ezekiel Hyde, who gave him 100 acres of land, but unfortunately the giver did not really own a foot of it.

The Hopbottom farm continued to be occupied by Jonathan Sabin, after his father left, until 1809 (he having in the mean time married the widow Raynale), when he removed to the Lake country.

The following incidents were given by Mr. Sabin upon receiving a copy of the Montrose 'Republican' which contained the proceedings of the Old Settlers' Festival, June, 1858. Hon. J. W. Chapman says: "No one acquainted with Jonathan Sabin, his skill and success as a hunter, and rectitude as a man, will question the truth of his statements."

"In the spring of 1800, Capt. Bartlet Hinds, in company with another man, came five miles through the woods to grind their axes—four in number, and new from the blacksmith shop—on my father's Nova Scotia grindstone, preparatory to cutting the first trees for a road from Great Bend to where Montrose now stands.

"While reflecting upon the events of my youthful days, my mind involuntarily reverts to some of the wilder and more exciting scenes enjoyed by me in hunting game, with which the wilderness of that country, at that time, was so bountifully supplied.

"I was then sixteen years of age, and lived with my father in a house about half a mile from Joseph Chapman's, where in those days there stood a *yellow willow tree* near the foot of the hill.

"During my four years' residence there, I destroyed five panthers, a number of bears, some seven or eight wolves, and at least two hundred deer. On one of my hunting excursions, I discovered, about two-thirds of the distance up the mountain southeast from the willow tree, a pile of leaves some two or three feet high, and upon examination found they contained a dead buck, which I supposed had been placed there by a panther. I took off the skin, and covered the body again as I found it, as nearly as I could. I then loaded a musket with eleven buckshot, and set it for the panther just at dark, and had left it only about five minutes, when I heard the report of the gun; upon returning to the spot, found the panther dead, not nine rods from the place where he received his wound. Every shot had taken effect. He measured nine feet in length from his nose to the end of his tail.

"While upon a hunting excursion about 200 rods north of the house, on the hill, I discovered a bear coming directly towards me. I allowed him to come within 16 feet before I fired; the charge, a ball and nine buckshot, took effect in his heart, and killed him instantly.

"On another occasion my brother and I went up to the north pond, about one mile from the house, to shoot deer by torchlight from a canoe. Soon after dark we heard the deer in the pond. We moved towards them care-

fully, and when within twelve rods, I fired and killed three the first shot; and before morning I killed four more, making seven deer with five shots, and had them all home in the morning."

From his letter written in 1866, we have the following:—

"About sixty years ago I saw a man coming up the hill towards my house, followed by his horse. He wanted to bait the horse on the beautiful clover before the door. That man was Robert R. Rose from Philadelphia. He named the town of Montrose. He owned 20,000¹ acres of land there. He surveyed his land himself, and boarded at Captain Hinds' that summer.

"He sent to me for a barrel of pork. It was impossible to get through the woods with a wagon, but I contrived to get the pork to him. I took two poles twenty feet long, and bored holes with a two-inch auger, about five feet from the butt, and inserted two cross-bars to hold the barrel, then sprung the poles together, bound them with withes, and lashed them behind the oxen. In this way I took him the pork, and got \$20 for it—a great sum in those days."

He also mentions the fact that in 1799, when he came, there was no settler from Page's (at Brooklyn Center) to Colonel Parke's; and from Page's to Horton's mills—9 miles—there was but one, John S. Tarbell.

Four barrels of salt paid for a span of horses purchased by Jon. Sabin when he was 21 years old. He sold to Mr. Miles a pair of millstones for \$50.

About 1808, Mr. Sabin had occasion to go to Cayuga Co., N. Y., to buy wheat, which could be obtained there for fifty cents per bushel, while at Hopbottom it was \$2.00; and he was then so delighted with "the lake country," he determined to leave the Beechwoods, and all their game. Having no regular title to the land, he sold his "improvements" to John B. Wallace, the Pennsylvania claimant, who gave him for them, \$100 and 100 acres. The latter he sold to David Morgan, and in 1809, he removed to Ovid, N. Y. In 1812, he bought a farm beyond Seneca Lake, in Steuben County, and resided there many years. He had eight children, one of whom, Joshua, died at Fort Leavenworth in the service of the U. S. during the rebellion. During the last twenty years of his life, he was blind from a cataract. His home was then with his youngest son in Niagara Co., N. Y., where he died the 25th of January 1870, aged 87 years.

Prior to the departure of Jonathan Sabin, J. B. Wallace and his brother in law, Horace Binney, Sen., of Philadelphia, came on to see their lands, and employed him to cut a road to "the Gregory settlement" in New Milford.

All his family finally removed to the west.

The Sabin farm was afterwards occupied by John Seeley, and sons Alden, Reuben, and Justus; Putnam Catlin also resided here a short time before he purchased a farm half a mile above, and

¹ The whole tract owned by Dr. Rose in 1809 consisted of nearly 100,000 acres.

the place at length came into the possession of Jezreel Dewitt. A son of the latter now lives on it.

It was half a mile from this place up the creek, on the north side, that Mr. Trout, another of the immigrants of 1787, was located. The farm is now occupied by N. C. Benjamin.

Mr. Denison's clearing, which was half a mile above Mr. Trout's, was early abandoned by him. In 1799, the timber around the rock on which his oven was built had grown to a diameter of six inches.

"Conrad Hill" takes its name from the location of one of the Conrads a short distance above Denison.

Prince Perkins first settled where C. R. Palmer now lives, but soon moved to the farm now occupied by Charles Kent. In 1811, he sold the latter to Latham Williams, and by the kind assistance of Colonel Frederick Bailey, procured one hundred acres of land (which Henry Dennis now owns) and there he and his son lived and died. Prince was the soul of all the early dancing parties in the vicinity, and was probably an accessory to the feast mentioned on another page. Some one exhibits a memorandum running thus: "1800—Prince Perkins for fiddling on the fourth of July—11s. 3d.

To give a picture of the life of a young woman for a fortnight in primitive times, the following is copied from Betsey Leffingwell's diary, kept for a friend in Connecticut, in 1799. Miss L. had come to visit her sister, Mrs. Capt. Tracy:—

"Bidwell,¹ September 30—Monday morn.—Mr. Chapman went to Webber's² after the horses in the time we were getting breakfast, which we eat with haste, mounted, and set off. Met Leonard Tracy on our way to Capt. Chapman's. Mr. Robison³ and Mary met us before we got to the house where they had been waiting for us near an hour. We soon proceeded on our way to Rindaw, called on the Mr. Parkes, was treated with short cake, dried bear's meat, and boyled corn. After a short tarry, we again mounted, jogged on to Mount Calm, made a visit to the new house, and then set off anew. Drove through swamp-holes, over logs, roots, and stumps, dismounting every half hour to pass creeks and brooks. At twelve we found seats, and partook of a comfortable meal, which refreshed us mightily. By four o'clock we came in sight of the famous store,⁴ which was filled with men of every description. Mr. Hyde, Reynolds, and Miner were not backward in welcoming us to Rindaw. We were escorted to Mr. Brunson's by them; found all well, and glad to see the ladies. Mr. Reynolds invited us to walk; we steered for the famous creek, and were joined by Mr. Pascal Tyler and the other gentlemen; took a sail, returned, drank tea, spent a sociable eve, and at nine we retired to rest.

¹ Miss L. dates from the residence of Capt. P. Tracy, who then lived where Obadiah Bailey now lives.

² It is thought Mr. Webber may have lived where S. K. Smith is now.

³ John W. Robinson. She wrote the name as it was then generally pronounced.

⁴ Enoch Reynolds, of Norwich, had established a store at Rindaw as an experiment.

"Tuesday (Oct. 1st) was very pleasant. We rose, took a walk to the store and on the banks of the creek. Returned to breakfast; was introduced to Doctor Usher and son, from Chatham—a proper tippe. Mr. Hyde found some work for us, which employed us till half-past ten, when we prinked up, eat a luncheon, mounted our horses, and set out with Mr. Reynolds, Chapman, and Robison to visit the Miss Inghams, seven miles down the creek. Had a very polite welcome from the ladies. Was treated with melons, apples, and an excellent cup of tea, and many other delicacies too numerous to mention. Miss Polly Ingham is soon to be married; we all had a polite invite to (the) wedding, and agreed to attend—*hem*. At even we mounted our nags to return to Brunson's, which we gained by nine; eat a hearty supper, and retired to rest.

"Wednesday.—Rose early, in order to turn our faces towards Bidwell. We jogged on leisurely, viewing the country as we passed, and making our remarks on the inhabitants and their plantations. There are eleven families in fourteen miles of the road, which three years since was a wilderness. At three o'clock we got within five miles of Mr. Chapman's; as it was the last house, we called. Mrs. Wilson was happy to see us, and set before us a good dinner. It being late, and no road but now and then a blazed tree for our guide, we concluded to stay the night. We took a walk around his clearing, and found it very pleasant, indeed. Mr. Wilson has been a settler but eight months, and has thirteen acres well cleared and fenced; hear this, and believe, for it is true. He sows six acres of wheat this fall, with no one to assist him.

"We rose early on Thursday morn, the third day of October, mounted our horses, and left them (the Wilsons). We crept along, over hills, and dales, and mud-puddles; found the Valley (Capt. C.'s) at 9 o'clock.

"Friday, October 4th.—Got home. Mrs. Chapman came and spent the day with us, accompanied by Mrs. Tracy. I took a run over to Mrs. Harkins' about noon.

"Saturday, October 5th.—Cloudy, and some rain; I not over smart to-day, but am fixing for our tour down to Rindaw, as we must be ready at a minute's warning (for Miss Ingham's wedding). Isaac and Edward Chapman called on their way to Mr. Jones'. The day was spent in work and play, and the night in sleep.

"Sunday morn.—Very pleasant. I rose not so early as common. Mr. Milburne made us a visit before we breakfasted. About eleven, I dressed myself and set off for meeting, alone. Found Milburne at Mr. Harkins', with Linsey. They were going to meeting, so Miss Leffingwell had their agreeable company. Arriving at Esq. Tracy's, we were disappointed in not hearing the sermon, as Capt. Sabins had that moment begun the last prayer, and such an one as I never heard; shall, however, say but little about it. I found Joseph and his sisters with Mr. Robison, of the congregation, with many more not worth mentioning (to you). They all left the house soon after but Mr. Chapman and Betty [herself], who drank tea with the Esquire's family, and then set off for home. Had a mighty serious walk (with the serious consequence of a wedding). Took a view of the plantation Mr. Webber is soon to move on. Got home by sunset, made up a good winter fire, and spent the evening by its side, in good spirits.

"Monday, October 7th, eve.—Mr. Harkin came in after some oyl for his child. I finished washing in time to prink up before dark. Mr. Robison made his appearance. We spent the evening very agreeably at whist. Mr. R. and Miss Leffingwell came off victorious.

"Tuesday, 8th.—The afternoon I spent in writing, and the eve in knitting.

"Wednesday.—No company to-day. I have been ironing. Mr. Tracy gathering corn and pumpkins—the largest I ever saw; they will weigh, take them as they rise, thirty pounds, and *one* thirty-seven.

"Thursday.—Mr. Chapman has made us a visit, on his way to Mr. Jones', to make Nancy a pair of shoes; *had his saddle-bags on his neck.*

"Fryday.—Mr. Chapman called on his way home. We retired to rest at eleven.

"Saturday eve.—I have got the ink-horn, with my paper, in my lap, just to bid you a good night's rest.

"Sunday eve.—We have spent the evening knitting, paring pumpkins, and telling riddles. [Saturday evening, and not Sunday evening—a New England custom of early times—was considered a part of the Sabbath.]

"Monday. . . . Spent the day rationally—no company—and at nine retired to rest, in spirits."

Miss Leffingwell was married to Joseph Chapman, Jr., the 25th of December, 1800, at Norwich, Conn. ✓

Referring to this, in 1858, Charles Miner said: "Capt. Peleg Tracy and Joseph Chapman, Jr., had each chosen a bride of the old aristocratic family of Leffingwell, in Norwich, amiable and excellent ladies."

The children of Joseph Chapman, Jr., were George, James W., Lydia (Mrs. J. L. Adams, recently deceased), John H., and Joseph, who died a young man. All were born on the farm which their father took up on the Hopbottom in 1798, and which Joseph Chapman, Jr., purchased under Pennsylvania title (a half mile square), and where he and his wife resided to the close of their lives. He died in 1845, and Mrs. C. in 1846.

Joseph Chapman, Jr., was a shoemaker, and one "who was never known to fail in keeping his promise."

George purchased a farm adjoining his father's, but the latter is occupied by C. M. Chapman, a son of George; and thus it has been held by four generations of the same family.

Samuel Howard's first clearing is now the farm of Nehemiah Mack; he afterwards cleared the farm of James Adams, Sr., and finally settled near B. Milbourne, until late in life, when he removed to South Auburn, where he died in 1843, aged seventy. Mrs. H. died in 1872.

In 1800, Jacob Tewksbury, from Vermont, bought out Mr. Page, who, with his large family—eleven children—was located just where Brooklyn Center now is. What was then known as Dutch Meadow is partly covered by the village cemetery. The Page place was purchased, in 1808, by Deacon Joshua Miles, and Jacob Tewksbury removed to a farm about half a mile west of it (where Rev. L. H. Porter now lives), and afterwards went to Gibson, where he died November, 1842, aged seventy-four.

Ebenezer Whitney came first to the clearing made by Mark Hartley, but soon removed to the place now owned by C. S. Perkins.

Capt. Amos Bailey was born in Groton, Ct., January, 1777. He was married, February, 1801, to Miss Prudence Gere, a

sister of Charles and Ebenezer Gere, and came with the latter to "Bidwell" the following month. (The locality was then in Nicholson, Luzerne County.) Capt. Charles Gere settled in what is now Lathrop, but Ebenezer G. and Capt. Bailey spent the summer with the family of Capt. Tracy. They were obliged to go to the mouth of the Tunkhannock for some provisions, which they brought on horseback, with marked trees to guide them; and seven miles to mill, leading the horse that carried the grist. Capt. B. killed the first deer he ever saw the morning after he arrived here. He and Mr. Gere split lumber from a cherry log, and made them a table and a bedstead. The table is still in perfect preservation in the room of one of his daughters, on the place where it was made; and from its neatness of finish no one would suspect it was constructed outside of a cabinet shop. Possibly it is the only piece of furniture now in the county which was furnished by its forests and foresters in 1801. In the fall of that year they returned to Connecticut, where Mr. G. remained nearly twenty-one years before he came to settle in Brooklyn. It was the intention of Capt. Bailey to bring his wife that winter, but as there was no sleighing he came alone, and worked through the summer of 1802. He purchased of Mr. Tracy his improvements, and the log house, built in 1790, by Messrs. Jones and Milbourne; and in the fall, with his wife, began housekeeping on the farm, where both lived until death. They came from Connecticut in a wagon, and were seventeen days on the road, three of which were spent in traveling from Great Bend, twenty miles. But they were more fortunate than many of the early settlers; they had a home to come to, and provisions in store for them, and something to spare to the hungry who came to their house; still they necessarily suffered many hardships and privations. Mrs. B. lived here three months without seeing a woman; but, though she had left a good home and society, she endured her privations cheerfully. As the country was cleared up, all the privileges of social life sprang up around them. Their united industry and economy soon secured to them a comfortable home. Capt. B. cleared his farm, and raised stock and produce to pay for it. He planted his first orchard from seeds which he brought from Connecticut; some of the trees are now standing and bearing.

In 1856, John Lord, Sr., just before his death, wrote the following:—

"Capt. Amos Bailey was here about two years before I came. He was always foremost in opening roads to accommodate new settlers. As soon as there were children enough for a school, then he was the foremost one in providing good schools. Through his influence the necessary amount of subscription was raised for a public meeting-house, which was built

without serious embarrassment to any one. He has always been a man of peace, and, by his friendly interpositions, he has prevented many serious litigations. Prominent men were willing to take counsel of him, because they knew he would act for the good of all."

Capt. Bailey died November 9, 1865, in the eighty-ninth year of his age.

Mrs. Bailey was greatly respected and beloved. She died July 15th, 1854, aged 85 years and 9 months. Amos Bailey and wife were among the earliest and most active Universalists of the township. Their children were: Prudy, who married Robert Kent, and died in Bridgewater, in 1863; Amos G., who lived in Brooklyn, and died in 1855; Eunice G., and Obadiah, at the old homestead—the farm which W. P. Bailey, a son of the last named, now owns and occupies with him.

Silas Lewis was a settler of 1801. Also, Edward Goodwin; Amos, Daniel, and William Lawrence. Amos Lawrence occupied the Hartley place after E. Whitney, but removed, with his brother Allen, after a few years, to Dimock.

Joshua Saunders and family settled at Mack's Corners. While his son Nathan was helping Capt. Bailey to clear his land, about 1804, he was knocked down by the limb of a tree, and died from his injuries. Mr. S. sold to Elisha Mack in 1811, and in 1817 moved to Ohio with Orlando Bagley and sons, and returned, after a time, to Brooklyn.

1802.—Jeremiah Gere—cousin of Charles and Ebenezer Gere, and son of Rezin Gere who fell at Wyoming—lived the first three years after his arrival with Joseph Chapman, Jr., and tanned leather in vats dug out of pine logs. In 1806, on the day of the great eclipse, he moved into the frame house he had built on the farm where S. W. Breed now lives. He died September, 1842, aged 72.

Charles V., his eldest son, died recently in Minnesota, aged 74 years; George M. died there, also; Henry resides in Missouri, and Edward L. in Brooklyn. Two others of his sons and two daughters are dead. Miss Otis, afterwards the wife of Freeman Peck, of Harford, came in with the family.

Mott Wilkinson and family came in 1802; also, Sergeant Tewksbury (a brother of Jacob), from Vermont. He settled just below Joshua Saunders, where John Bolles now lives; he died in 1842, aged 68.

1803.—Isaac Tewksbury (father of Jacob and Sergeant T.) and Barnard Worthing came from Vermont on a visit; the latter purchased an improvement—the Abel Green farm (in Lathrop). Both returned the same fall. Alfred Tiffany and family came from Harford.

1804.—Early in this year, Isaac Tewksbury and family located on the clearing of one of the original forty settlers of Brook-

lyn—"McIntyre" hill. For nearly fifty years this hill has been crowned with the Universalist church, a landmark for miles around.

Isaac and Jacob T. built the first saw-mill in the town, about 1805, nearly opposite the house now owned by P. G. Birch. Isaac and Judith T. are buried in the Methodist Episcopal churchyard.

The ancestors of the family came from Tewksbury, England, where one of them, John, was burned at the stake, about 1620.

Orlando Bagley, wife, four sons, and three daughters came on ox and horse sleds from Hartland, Windsor County, Vermont, at the same time with Isaac Tewksbury. Jesse B., the oldest son, now (1871) 85 years old, says:—

"We started on Tuesday, and were two Sundays on the road. It was in March, and the snow in some places was nearly five feet in depth. We settled on the hill east of what is now Mack's Corners. We went to Tunkhannock and Wilkes-Barre for store goods, to Horton's and Tunkhannock to mill, and to Hyde's, at the forks of the Wyalusing, to our post-office. Esquire Hinds, only, lived where Montrose is."

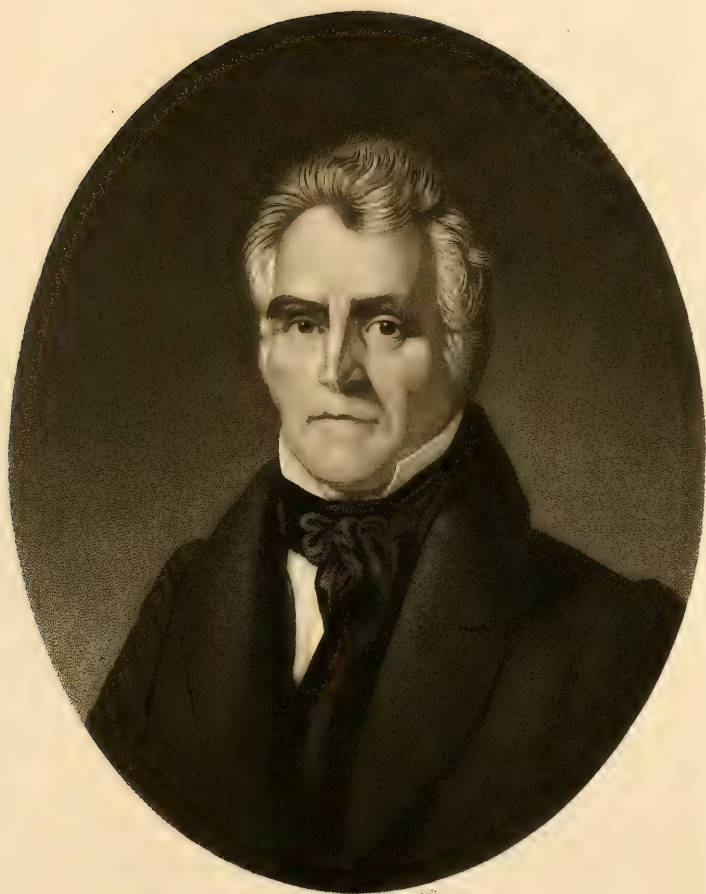
Orlando Bagley's sons were: Jesse, Stephen, Thomas, George, and Washington. The family moved to Ohio in 1817, but four of the brothers returned to Brooklyn. Jesse recently removed to Lanesboro'.

The present Mrs. Otto, *née* Miriam Worthing, and two of her brothers, came to the town with the families of Orlando Bagley and Isaac Tewksbury, a few months before Barnard Worthing, her father, located permanently in the vicinity. She spent some years in the family of Deacon Joshua Miles, and prepared for teaching. She taught school twenty seasons in Susquehanna and Luzerne counties. She united with the Methodist class in 1821, at the age of 17, and was acquainted with all the early ministers of that denomination. She has contributed some valuable items to its history.

Capt. Charles Gere (brother of Ebenezer), remained in Lathrop until 1803 or 1804, when he came to the place now owned by Joseph Tiffany, and remained there until his death, early in 1842. His wife was a sister of Drs. B. A. and Mason Denison, and, from her own knowledge of medicine, she was accustomed to practice at an early day, going to her patients on horseback, guided by marked trees.

Of their children, Charles D. and Mrs. Dr. Merrill are deceased; Robert W. and one daughter, Mrs. J. W. Adams, live in Brooklyn, and another, Mrs. Sarah D. Kintner, in Wyoming County.

1804-1807.—Samuel Yeomans and sons Joseph and Samuel, Isaiah Fuller, Noah Fuller, and Stephen Gere (brother of Jere-



Painted by John A. Smith, 1840

Fred^R Bailey

miah, and father of Albert R. Gere now of Brooklyn), John Seeley and sons Alden, Reuben, and Justus, settled in the town.

COL. FREDERICK BAILEY.

Col. Frederick Bailey, a younger brother of Capt. Amos Bailey, bought of Amos Lawrence his title to the improvement first begun by Mark Hartley, Sr. (father of Esquire Hartley, of Lenox), one of the original Nicholson settlers. He afterwards added to his possessions by purchase from the State of some vacant land adjacent, making with this the large and valuable farm now owned by his youngest son, Henry L. Bailey. Here Col. Bailey settled, in 1807, and resided till his death, in September, 1851, at the age of 71 years. Having acquired a thorough common-school education in his native State (Connecticut), he was several times employed in winter in teaching the youth of his neighborhood. One who attended his school at the age of five years, and again at the age of 11, contributes the following notice of Col. B. :—

“The writer of this, among several others, most of threescore years or more, can bear testimony to his strict discipline, thorough training, and his happy faculty of inspiring the ambition of his pupils, and laying the foundation for all their attainments in after life. He was not only a successful teacher and a thrifty farmer at home, but a man whose qualifications fitted him to be foremost in any public enterprise. The old Milford and Owego Turnpike Road, which sixty years ago was considered almost as momentous an undertaking as the Pacific Railroad was half a century later, furnishing as it did a thoroughfare for travel by daily stages from Western New York to the city, through this corner of Pennsylvania, owed much to his wide-awake, persevering energy for its construction and maintenance as a public benefit, till superseded by the railroads of the country. But it was in the *domestic circle*—in his own family and immediate neighborhood—that he was most especially appreciated. His surviving children piously regard the *fifth commandment*, while many other relatives and friends revere and cherish his memory.” The following extract from the obituary, published at the time, is expressive of the sentiment entertained: “He was intimately identified with every enterprise calculated to promote the growth and improvement of the country. He was extensively known in it, and was eminently respected by the past generation and the present as a man of sound judgment, superior business attainments, and active, prompt, and energetic habits. He was alike liberal in his sentiments and his actions; and having obtained a competency by his industry and prudent management, his heart and his hand were always open to the wants of his friends and neighbors.”

He had six sons and four daughters. He had buried one wife, three sons, and one daughter (among whom was his eldest son, Frederick W. Bailey, an enterprising merchant near Boston). Two daughters and his second wife have since deceased—the latter in 1869, in her 90th year. Robert M. Bailey, of Boston, James W. Bailey, of Lawrence, Mass., Mrs. Wm. Stevens, of Pike, Bradford County, and Henry L. Bailey, now on the old homestead, constitute the remainder of his family.

1808.—Joshua Miles—commonly called Captain or Deacon Miles—came to Brooklyn Center, purchased the saw-mill of the Tewksburys, and built a grist-mill. He is remembered as a public-spirited man, a good mathematician, and a devoted Christian. He had quite a library, for those days, of excellent books, including a number of volumes of sermons, which were read in public worship nearly every Sabbath for years after

his death, which occurred July 6, 1815. His house occupied the site of D. A. and A. Tittsworth's store.

Erastus Caswell, a brother of Mrs. Miles, came with her and remained some time; afterwards went to Wilkes-Barre, married, and did not return to Brooklyn until 1825. He had nine children, of whom six live in the vicinity.

1809.—Noah Tiffany, from Massachusetts, came with his family, including his sons Olney, Noah, and John, and their sister (now the widow of Eliab Farrer, of Harford), to the Harkins place, near a fine spring, the coveted location of early settlers. After Deacon Miles's death, he purchased his house and farm, and resided there until his death, July 19, 1818. He had been postmaster some years, and his son Arunah occupied this post during the two years he resided in the place, immediately subsequent to the death of his father.

Charles Perigo and Edward Payne were settlers of 1809.

1810.—Joshua Miles, Jr., came in the fall, with his wife and one child (subsequently Mrs. Dr. B. Richardson). After two or three years he came in possession of the mill property of his father. He was a man of enterprise and sterling integrity. Being a carpenter, he erected two saw-mills in Brooklyn and two in Lathrop, and two grist-mills in Brooklyn, several dwelling-houses, a Presbyterian and a Methodist church, and, for himself, an oil and a paper-mill. The last-named enterprise was burned in 1842, soon after it was started, and embarrassed him so much he decided to repair his fortune at the West. He removed to Sterling, Ill., in 1843, and died there in 1863, aged eighty-five.

Elisha Safford, a native of Massachusetts, came from Connecticut to the west part of Brooklyn in 1810, and selected the farm which he afterwards cleared, cutting the first tree felled on the place, and which is now occupied by Albert Allen; a pretty ridge, abounding with hemlock, beech, birch, and maple. He brought in his family—wife and two children—in 1811, and built a log house, which he occupied nineteen years. His wife, Olive, is said to have been "always abounding in works of kindness and love to her neighbors." She reared six sons and four daughters to adult age, and all settled not far from home. When she was in her seventieth year she wrote a sketch of her early life in Brooklyn, from which the following is copied:—

"There were at that time meetings held on the Sabbath at a dwelling-house two miles from us. We attended as often as we could conveniently, but we had to walk and carry our children. When we did not go we did not wholly forget the Sabbath; we did not visit or receive visitors on that day. Like others, we had to suffer many privations. The necessities of life were hard to be got. My husband went, one time, ten miles for a half

bushel of salt, and brought it home on his back. The roads were very bad; but, prompted by ambition, I did forbear to murmur or complain, though at times, when the friends and associates we had left behind came fresh to my mind, I would think within myself, Oh, why was my lot cast in the wilds of Susquehanna!" The pen of one of her daughters writes: "Father had sheep, and mother spun and wove, and, with her girls' help, made warm clothing for winter, and bedding too. He raised flax every year, and we spun and wove it every springtime. I remember well, when I was seven years old, of spinning; having the quill wheel fitted up with 'standard,' and old-fashioned 'head,' as I was too small to spin on the great wheel."

After describing a terrific night-storm, she says:—

"In the morning we looked out upon what seemed a new world. So much of the woods was laid prostrate, we could look through the opening and see cleared fields and buildings three miles distant—a great treat to us, although the damage done in the forest was great. Southwest of us, about six acres were swept nearly smooth."

Some years after that, a raging fever went through the place, three or four in a family being sick at one time.

Elisha Safford died in 1862, aged eighty-one. His wife, after years of suffering, died in 1859, aged seventy-three. One son, J. Dwight Safford, now deceased, became a minister, a member of the Wyoming Conference.

Silas P. Ely "contributed his full share to every public improvement." He came in the first of the Ely family, his father Gabriel and uncle Zelophehad Ely, arriving three or four years later. He had a large family, of whom only three survive; his son George occupies the homestead. He lived to be eighty-one years old; had been a Presbyterian for fifty years.

The Macks of Brooklyn belong to three families, descendants of three brothers: Elisha Mack's sons were Elisha, Marvin, and Enoch 2d; Elijah's were Josiah, Elijah B., Nehemiah, and Edward; Enoch has but one, Flavel. Enoch settled where Amos Hollister lives.

David Morgan, Gideon Beebe, Bela Case, Isaac Sterling and sons, Bradley and Isaac H., carpenters, were settlers of 1810. Isaac H. Sterling is now a resident of Sterling, Ill.

Dr. Mason Denison began the practice of his profession in Brooklyn about 1810.

Putnam Catlin, Esq., came to the township as agent for the Wallace estate of "14,000 acres of beech and maple lands," receiving land in payment, of which a part was Mr. Sabin's old sugar-camp. He built a fine residence here. The Hop-bottom post-office was established in 1813, P. Catlin, postmaster. The returns for letter-postage, the first quarter, were \$1.00. In the small frame building erected for the office, his son George, "since eminent on three continents as an artist,

and particularly as a delineator of Indian life and features," once taught school.

When George was born, his parents resided in or near Wilkes-Barre. His mother's maiden name was Sutton, and she belonged to a prominent family in Wyoming Valley. Putnam Catlin was admitted as an attorney during the first court in Wilkes-Barre, May 29, 1787. He removed to Windsor, N. Y., and from there to Brooklyn, then (1810) included in Bridge-water. His aged father resided with him, and died here. Julius, a brother of George, who also had artistic tastes, was drowned, in 1828, at Rochester, N. Y., while sketching the Falls.

Though Putnam Catlin is said to have had an "aristocratic bearing," he was yet truly affable and easily approached. The poor were never turned away from his door. He would say, "I shall always have enough," and would take the clothing, which Mrs. C. thought still serviceable, and give it to the children of others more needy. He encouraged young men to clear land for him; and though it was then the custom to give cattle, or "truck," as payment for work, he would pay to each from two to three dollars in cash, that they might be able to expend something on holidays. Even as late as 1825, for a whole summer's work, a farm-hand received but \$10 in cash, the rest being in produce, etc.

While he was cashier of the Silver Lake Bank, he and his family lived for a time where J. S. Tarbell lives in Montrose; and afterwards in the bank building, now owned and occupied by F. B. Chandler. Afterwards he removed to Great Bend, where he died in 1842, aged 77. Mrs. C. died two years later, at Delta, N. Y., in her 74th year.

He had been a drummer-boy of the Revolution. He was born in Litchfield, Ct., and was there admitted to the bar. In 1814 he was a Representative in the Legislature of Penn'a.

A story is told of one of his early trips from Wilkes-Barre to "Nine Partners." The only house of entertainment was half-way between the places; it was built of logs, and consisted apparently of but one room, containing two or three beds. There was no floor. A short-cake was baking before the fire, and a white cloth was spread on a *stump*, the only table. At bedtime he was invited to sleep "in the other room," a pleasant fiction, as the only partition consisted in the projecting chimney and *another stump*.

Justice Kent, originally from Massachusetts, came in 1810 from Windsor, N. Y., to the farm now occupied by David, his oldest son, and which then adjoined that of P. Catlin on the north. When Mr. K. brought his family in 1811 to the log-cabin he had engaged the previous season, it was occupied by

Joseph Guernsey and family, and for six weeks the two families lived in one room; four adults, and twelve children; six of the latter in each family. A ladder led to a small loft where some of the children slept. Fifteen sheep were yarded near the house. Dogs could not be depended upon for guard, as they were afraid of the bears.

Mr. K. built a grist-mill (where Jewett's saw-mill is) near the present line of Bridgewater. Robert, his second son, tended the mill, though at times he did not have more than one customer a week. He with other boys was accustomed to practice stratagem to secure venison. They made temporary salt licks between the roots of trees, then constructed a bower, and "set" a gun for an unwary animal. He was a playmate with George Catlin at Windsor, and confirms the statements of the latter respecting his prowess in hunting, saying: "He would *hit* if within fifteen rods of anything." He had eleven children, all of whom are living in the county, except one daughter. His sons are Robert, Elijah, H. Wallace, Ezra S., Charles, and George J.

About 1825, farmers began to realize cash for cattle sold to drovers. A two-year old would sell for from seven to nine dollars. In 1826, one farmer sold 100 bushels of wheat at 75 cents per bushel, and only one bushel could command cash.

This money was the first he had received in fifteen months; the fifteen shillings he had previous to that time, had held out! Money for taxes was raised by working on the turnpike.

1811.—Nathan Jewett came in the spring from East Haddam, Conn., built a log-house on the place now occupied by his grandson, Nathan R. Jewett, and then returned for his family. They arrived Nov. 3, 1811. He had then two children, Francis, who died when a young man, and Rodney, fifteen months old. Two daughters and one son, Allen, were born here. The last named was killed in the war for the Union.

On his arrival, he paid for his farm, 100 acres or more, in gold; and always enjoyed a competence from the fruits of his labor. He died in 1861, aged 78. Mrs. J. died in 1865, aged 77.

Cyril Giddings; David Sutliff, and sons Zerah, Joel and Harris; Latham Williams and family, from Groton, Conn.; and Jedediah Lathrop, were among the settlers of 1811. Also, Jacob Wilson, who taught the first school in his neighborhood.

Wise Wright, from Connecticut, settled in Brooklyn (where his son Orlando now resides); at the same time (1811) his brother Anthony settled in Lathrop. A lady of Brooklyn writes:—

"I remember when Wise Wright and family lived in a log-house covered with bark. Perhaps none here endured more of the hardships and privations of a new country than Mrs. W. Many times after the children were in bed, she had spun a day's work; sometimes working all night to procure food and clothing for their needy family. They had nine children, and lived

to enjoy a comfortable home on the farm where they first settled ; and where they both died. Mr. W. died in 1854, aged 71 ; and Mrs. W. a few years later."

Esek H. Palmer and Amy his wife were natives of New London Co., Ct., where they lived until after the birth of four of their twelve children. In March, 1811, he came from Conn. on foot and alone, to the house of Amos Bailey, in Susquehanna County. After prospecting a little, he selected the farm now occupied by his son, C. R. Palmer (Prince Perkins' first "chopping"), cleared, put in crops, and made them ready to leave until harvest ; and then returned, as he came, to Connecticut. In August following he brought his family and goods in a two-horse wagon, and commenced housekeeping in a log-house belonging to his neighbor A. Bailey. The lumber for his own house had to be drawn from Titus' mill (now Oakley's) up a steep hill ; and by the road, they had to travel more than three miles with oxen and sled in the heat of summer ; but he persevered, and had his house inclosed so that the family moved into it in Nov. 1812. The old house was removed in 1840, and a new one built near its site. Here he died Oct. 31, 1861, in his 84th year.

Mrs. P. now (1872) in her 90th year, resides at the homestead. Their six daughters, and four of their sons, James S., Gurdon W., Charles R., and Isaac N., became heads of families. The oldest son, James S., formerly edited a paper in Montrose, and is now a preacher of the Universalist denomination in Mansfield, Pa. Two sons and one daughter are deceased ; the rest of the family are independent farmers, or farmers' wives of Susquehanna County.

1812.—Stephen Breed came from Stonington, Conn., to the clearing where Adam Miller and family had their home in 1787 ; but, prior to 1812, it had been also vacated by James Coil and Edward Goodwin. Mr. Breed was extensively known as the keeper of a public-house. "Early in the Temperance Reformation he adopted its principles ; and to the time of his decease kept a temperance house, where travelers found a home at which good order and comfort awaited them." He was for many years an Elder in the Presbyterian Church. He died in 1852, and his farm is now occupied by his widow and their son, R. F. Breed.

Edward Packer settled on McIntyre Hill, on the farm now occupied by Dudley Packer, his son. It was in this vicinity that Hon. Asa Packer, now of Mauch Chunk, learned the carpenter's trade.

James Packer, Solomon Dickinson, Caleb Crandall and family, Luther and Erastus Catlin, Ephraim Howe, Thomas and William Sterling, were all here in 1812.

1813.—Dana Fox, at the age of 18, came from Connecticut with a sister (afterwards Mrs. P. Wood) older than himself, into the wilderness, and cleared the farm where Lebbeus Rogers afterwards lived and died.

David Bissel came in this year.

James Smith, wife, and sons Latham A. and Isaac, with their families, came from Connecticut. The ten children of L. A. Smith now (1871) reside within the county, and two are prominent physicians. James S. died at the age of 83, and his wife at that of 82.

1814.—Gabriel and Zelophehad Ely. The sons of the latter were Lyman, John R., Hiram, and Jacob. He died about 1822. Gabriel Ely was postmaster in 1815 or '16.

Anthony Fish, and sons Francis, Frederick, and Asa. He had eventually four daughters, three of whom reside in the county.

Israel Reynolds, and sons Nathaniel and Samuel. Two other sons, Hatfield and Israel, died long since.

1815.—Asa Crandall, Sen., a wheelwright.

Joshua Baker, a Baptist minister, had a large family. He moved to Lenox, where he died in 1871.

Nathaniel Sterling resided in Brooklyn until his death, April 15, 1872, in his 98th year.

Andrew and Lebbeus Rogers, Peter Herkimer, James Oakley and family, from Harford; Ebenezer Payne, Thaddeus Palmer, Elihu B. Smith, Elisha Williams, Thomas and James Davison, are reported as here in this year.

1816.—Dr. Samuel Bissel, Stephen Griffis, Joshua and Josiah Fletcher, Laban and David Cushing, Joseph Lines, Joshua Jackson, wife, and sons Joshua and Joseph, with their wives, and Caleb (single).

George Cone, wife and two children, came in February, in a "coaster" wagon, with three yoke of oxen. He brought in \$2500—then considered a large sum. None of the family remain here. His place is owned and occupied by Rodney Jewett.

1817.—Jonas R. Adams, a hatter.

Thomas Garland came from Maine and set up a tailor's shop; the first in the county outside of Montrose. In June, 1821, he received the appointment of postmaster, the office then being named Hopbottom, though the town was Waterford. It was upon his petition that the town received the name of the P. O.

1818.—Lodowick Bailey, a younger brother of Amos and Frederic B., is still a resident of the township, and recently celebrated his 86th birthday. As illustrative of the longevity of the people of this section, it may be stated that there were

five persons present at the celebration between 80 and 90 years of age; six between 70 and 80; and seventeen between 60 and 70. In the fall of 1867, forty-nine persons in Brooklyn were over 70 years old, fifteen of whom were over 80, and one (N. Sterling just noticed) over 90. With few exceptions, all were natives of New England. One year later, there were but thirty-six reported as being over 70.

Amos Merrill, wife, and sons Jonathan H. and Amos B. The elder became a physician, and died in New Hampshire; the younger resides in Hopbottom. The mother died in her 100th year.

Asa Hawley, father of E. W. Hawley, of Bridgewater; Abel Hawley, brother of Asa, and father of Joseph H., of Lenox, and Nelson H., of Montrose; Jeremiah Spencer, a carpenter, who lived and died on the old Saunders farm; Isaac Aldrich; Arunah Tiffany (postmaster two years); Thomas Oakley; Moses Smith; Joseph Peckham. The last named took up a farm which is now divided—his widow and son James occupying one part of it, and G. W. Palmer the part which George Newbury purchased before him.

1819-22.—Nathan Aldrich; George Risley; Capt. Randall, a cooper; Rufus Pierpont, and Richard Williams, afterwards in Lathrop, with his father's family, and John Austin.

Ebenezer Gere, twenty-one years after his first sojourn in the county, returned with his wife and children—the present Mrs. R. O. Miles, and Mrs. G. W. Palmer, of Brooklyn, and Christopher M. Gere, of Montrose—to the farm which he had purchased in 1816, of Orlando Bagley. He remained here until his death. Mrs. G. is still living (1872) in her 90th year.

1823.—James Noble (as asserted by many) was the first merchant in the town. He had been previously a short time at Burrows Hollow in Gibson, but came here from New York. It was at his suggestion the town received the name of Brooklyn. In 1831, he removed to Springville, where he remained two or three years; then returned to New York, where he died.

The celebration of the 4th of July, 1823, is remembered as more general and spirited than that of any previous year.

1823-24.—Edward Otto, Isaiah Hawley, and Capt. Rowland Miles and families.

1825.—Capt. Elisha Baker purchased of Samuel Weston the farm now owned by his son, Jared Baker, of New York.

William Ainey was born in Fulton Co., N. Y., in 1776. His wife (Hannah Crawford) was a native of Connecticut. She died ten years after their arrival; he died aged 74. Both lie in the old burying ground near the Methodist church. Of their grandsons, Albert J. Ainey is a practicing physician at Brooklyn

Center; D. C. Ainey, at New Milford, and William H. Ainey is a prominent lawyer, and president of a national bank in the city of Allentown. Their father (Jacob) was for some years a resident of Dimock.

1826-1830.—Y. S. Culver; Lucius Robinson (had a carding machine and fulling works many years); Jezreel and Aaron Dewitt from New Jersey; Eli B. Goodrich; Isaac and Amos Van Auken; Dr. B. Richardson.

Rollin T. Ashley came from Atlantic Co., N. Y., in the spring of 1831, and engaged in the mercantile business. In 1866 he was elected associate judge of the Susquehanna courts, which office he held until the recent election of James W. Chapman.

Years of disquiet to the settlers, in consequence of conflicting claims of Philadelphia landholders, did not prevent them from improving the land, and erecting buildings in comfortable style. One source of difficulty had arisen from the fact that land warrants issued to Chew and Allen, in 1775, were overlapped by those issued to John Nicholson in 1785; but at last, by decision of the Legislature, March, 1842, the minds of the people were set at rest.

The first school-house in Brooklyn was made of logs; the first teacher in it was Leonard Tracy, December, 1800. He died two years later. There appears to have been no school from that time until 1807, when Samuel Weston taught for one winter. Following him during the next five years were: Edward Chapman, Mary Weston, Frederick Bailey, Eunice Otis, Miss Austin, George Catlin, Mrs. Joseph Chapman, Jun., and Joshua Miles; the ladies teaching in summer, and the gentlemen in winter.

Jesse Bagley taught very early near Mack's Corners; and several years afterwards in other localities.

A daughter of Capt. Amos Bailey writes:—

"The first school in this district, as near as I can ascertain, was taught by Lucretia Kingsley, of Harford, in Mr. Milbourne's barn, in the year 1812. The next, by Col. Frederick Bailey, in his own house. Our first school-house was burnt soon after it was built; I think Dea. Cyril Giddings was teaching that winter. Another school-house was built on the same spot. Miss Sally Kingsbury (now the widow of Lyman Richardson), Miss Ruth Cone, and Noah Williston Kingsbury, of Harford (now deceased), were among the early teachers of this district. It was at a school of the last named that a young woman brought a grammar, wishing to study that branch; but it was thought by some of the directors to be unnecessary, and likely to interfere with other studies; and was not allowed. The only branches taught in school where my sister, my brother Amos, and myself attended, were spelling, reading, writing, and arithmetic. Thus, and because we could not be spared to go to school much, after we were old enough to work, our advantages of school education were limited enough. My last teacher was Mr. Asa Crandall."

Eliza Milbourne was the first teacher near E. Safford's, in 1820.

Of later teachers, whose labors were continued year after year, honorable mention may be made of Sarah D. Gere,

daughter of Charles Gere, and of Verie Ann Safford, who began teaching between 1830-35. Miss Safford died July, 1867, aged 59.

Samuel A. Newton came from Connecticut in 1833, to the farm Deacon Jacob Wilson had owned and occupied, and where he had taught school in his own house, about four miles from Montrose. Here, in the fall of 1839, he established a select school which was afterwards known for years as Newtonville Institute. He died in 1863.

Among the earliest town-officers were: Cyril Giddings, first constable of Waterford, and Fred. Bailey and David Sutliff, first supervisors (1814). Joshua Miles, Jeremiah Gere, Charles Gere, and Joseph Chapman, Jun., were elected "freeholders" the following year. Frederick Bailey was town clerk in 1820.

The Abington and Waterford Turnpike was incorporated by Act of Legislature, in 1823. It passes through the township from north to south.

In addition to the remarkably cold seasons of 1801 and 1816, may be noticed that of the hard winter of 1842-43, in Brooklyn. The diary of Miss V. A. Safford states:—

"The snow fell at intervals from early in November until February, 1843, when there was four feet of snow on the ground. The roads were almost impassable till April." Under date of April 12th, she added: "Farmers almost without exception are destitute of hay. Many have kept their stock on browse for a month past. Numbers of sheep and cattle have died, and those that are alive can scarcely get up alone. Poor people, who had managed to lay by a few bushels of grain for their families, have used them up, and are now destitute of food either for themselves or cattle." Later, her journal continues: "Snow fell on the first day of December, 1845, and bare ground was not seen again till March, 1846. Uninterrupted good sleighing four months in succession. A great flood when the snow thawed."

Notwithstanding the severity of Brooklyn winters, its soil is productive to an extent that compares well with that of other townships. Tall oats and large crops of wheat have been reported. In 1839, a pumpkin was raised which weighed a hundred pounds. Cattle thrive, either from the quality of the grass and grain, or from the good attention paid to their wants. Industry and thrift characterize the inhabitants and their surroundings.

Though the cluster of buildings surrounding the hotel, store, and post-office, at Montrose Depot, are in the township, the station itself is in Harford, as the Lackawanna and Western Railroad runs east of Martin's Creek—the eastern limit of Brooklyn.

"The village of Brooklyn is built on an inclined plane, 40 minutes from rail. It has a post-office and a daily mail, and here, and in the township, it is said there are two hotels, five dry goods stores, one dentist, two

physicians, and three wealthy retired merchants; four music-teachers. There is also a steam saw-mill, cabinet and chair factory, a tannery, a stove and tin shop, a carding machine, two feed mills, a flour-mill nearly ready for operation, four saw-mills, two cider-mills, a tailor shop, a cooper shop, four blacksmith shops, two carriage shops, one harness shop, four boot and shoe shops, and two movable meat markets.

"There are in town twenty-five pianos, organs, and melodeons, one knitting machine, forty sewing machines, one photograph gallery, two milliners, and three dress-makers. There are in the township three wealthy, influential, religious societies, with seven pastors or clergymen. Each congregation has a well-regulated choir. There is one thriving Good Templars' Lodge, one town hall (called Rogers Hall), and ten school-houses. The independence and wealth of our people is largely with the farming community."

A Farmers' and Mechanics' Association was organized some years ago.

Brooklyn was awake, in comparatively good season, to the importance of the temperance movement, and to the interests of the slave.

E. L. Paine, son of Edward, is said by some to have been the first merchant, and to have sold out to James Noble. Succeeding merchants were as follows: George M. Gere, — Betts, F. W. Bailey, James Jackson, S. W. Breed, R. T. Ashley, Edwin Tiffany, O. A. Eldridge, Robert Eldridge, O. G. Hempstead, E. McKenzie, Amos Nichols, James Smith, C. Rogers, — Foot, D. A. & A. Tittsworth.

Justices of the peace, appointed: Edward Packer, Dr. Samuel Bissell, James Noble, Abel Hewett, Marvin L. Mack, Ebenezer Gere.

Elected: Amos G. Bailey, R. O. Miles, Amos Tewksbury (declined), E. A. Weston, G. B. Rogers. [Abel Hewett was elected and re-elected as long as he lived in Brooklyn.]

Physicians: Mason Denison, a native of Vermont, educated at Dartmouth College, removed to Montrose in 1813; married Wealthy, daughter of Walter Lathrop. Mrs. Edmund Baldwin is the only one of the children now in the county. Samuel Bissell, E. B. Slade, Enoch Mack, Palmer Way, B. Richardson, Wm. L. Richardson (1841), and Doctors Meacham, Chamberlin, Blakeslee, and Ainey.

RELIGIOUS.

In 1804, the Hopbottom settlement was visited by Morris (James?) Howe and Robert Burch, preachers in Wyoming circuit, who formed a Methodist class of four members: Jacob Tewksbury and wife, Mrs. Tracy (afterwards Mrs. Miles), and Silas Lewis. [In the History of Early Methodism, by Dr. Peck, Mrs. Joshua Saunders is mentioned as one of the four; but it is said she did not join until several years later.] The circuit embraced Wayne and Luzerne, including what are now Susquehanna, Bradford, and Wyoming counties.

In 1806, Christopher Frye, who is described as "rough as a meat-ax," was on this circuit. The first class-leader was Nicholas Horton, who lived ten miles below Brooklyn Center. Upon his resignation on account of the distance, Frazier Eaton, only six miles away, was appointed leader, and was accustomed to fulfil his appointments barefooted. After him, Jacob Tewksbury was the leader until about 1809, when Edward Paine came to the place, received and retained the leadership, until he began to preach. Mr. Paine was, for many years, "the life of the Methodist Society." His wife was an efficient helper. While Mr. Frye was here, there was a rapid increase of members, among whom were several of the Bagleys, Tewksburys, Saunders, Worthings, and others. A daughter of Jacob Tewksbury, Mrs. Garland, was a member for sixty years preceding her death in 1868.

In 1812, Rev. Elisha Bibbins was on the circuit. He had appointments "at Crowfoot's (Josiah Crofut), within eight miles of Great Bend, thence (*via* Hopbottom?) to Springville, or 'the little Beechwoods,' thence to Lyman's settlement, thence to Meshoppen, next to Braintrim, and from thence up the Tuscarora Creek into the neighborhood of Father Coggswell's"—in Auburn.

"Hoppingbottom" was a name given, by outsiders, to the settlement on the Hopbottom—the *ing* being inserted to illustrate the leaping and shouting by which the Methodists then exhibited their spiritual joy. A revival continued here through the year.

The houses then afforded so little privacy that persons were accustomed to retire into the woods to pray. A gay hunter declared that they frightened the deer away, and that he came upon praying people everywhere.

In 1813, Bridgewater circuit was formed, John Hazard and Elijah Warren, preachers. "Hopbottom was the centre of the circuit, and gave tone to the whole." In 1814, Wyatt Chamberlin was one of the preachers; in September, 1816, a camp-meeting was held; in 1817, Joshua and Caroline Miles sold land, twelve by six perches, for \$15, for the erection of a house of worship; in 1818, Edward Paine was licensed to preach, and in 1819 he occupied the circuit with George Peck (now the Rev. Dr. Peck, of Scranton). The latter says:—

"Methodism had long been in existence in this region of country; but still it had to dispute every inch of ground. The class in Hopbottom had been diminished and weakened by removals, and here we met with active hostility from Old School Presbyterians and Universalists. Elder Davis Dimock (Baptist) was firmly intrenched in his stronghold at Montrose, and from that point spread himself as widely as possible in all directions; and wherever he came he was sure to strike a blow at Methodism. In spite of

opposing elements, we had seals to our ministry. There was a rising in the church at all points."

Respecting his companion in the circuit, Dr. Peck says:—

"Edward Paine, a native of Connecticut, was born in 1777, of pious parents, and was converted when fourteen years old; at fifteen, he joined the Baptist, and afterward the Methodist, church. About the time he came to Hopbottom he was licensed to exhort, and was soon licensed as a local preacher. After several years he began to be exercised about the itinerancy. At home, he possessed a good living, was highly esteemed by all his neighbors, was honored with the office of justice of the peace (the first justice of the town of Waterford, as Brooklyn was then called), was strongly attached to his family, but he resolved to sacrifice all for the church of God."

Edward P. was drowned, in 1820, while bathing near Owego, N. Y. He was on his way to Conference in Canada. His widow married Jesse Ross, and removed to Oshkosh, Wis., where she died in 1870.

Other early prominent ministers and presiding elders in this section were, Geo. Lane, Loring Grant, Benjamin Bidlack, Gideon Draper, John Kimlin, Noah Bigelow, Wm. Brown, George Hermon, and Marmaduke Pierce. It is said of Father Bidlack that "he preached much against *dress*. On one occasion, he told his hearers if they should see a fox-hole, and a fox's tail hanging out of it, they would say there was a fox in it; so, hats and bonnets, all covered with feathers and ribbons, showed there was pride in the heart."

The Methodists had held their meetings, until 1809, at the house of Jacob Tewksbury, and from that time at Edward Paine's, until about 1813, when they erected the frame of the first house of worship in the town. As soon as it was inclosed, they put in a temporary pulpit, placed boards across the joists for seats, in comfortable weather, and here many delightful seasons were enjoyed. The building was taken down in 1830, and a new one built near its site, by Joshua Miles, Jr. This, in 1867, was remodeled at an expense of \$4000, a cupola and bell being added.

The church membership now numbers about 200.

The first public religious services of the New-Englanders of the Hopbottom settlement were held by Congregationalists, among whom Joshua Sabin was prominent in 1799. After the arrival of Jacob Tewksbury, and the formation of the Methodist class, all united in public worship several years.

"Rev. Wm. Purdy, a Baptist, preached frequently at Hopbottom as early as 1808; and went from there over the hills to 'Nine Partners' to Elkanah Tingley's, a 'Baptist Tavern' still (1863), and over rugged ridges through the Elkwoods." A Baptist church was never organized in Brooklyn.

August 7th, 1810, the "Second Congregational Church of Bridgewater" was organized with the following members:

Joshua Miles, Noah Tiffany, Olney Tiffany, Josiah Lord, Eleazar French, Mary Miles, Patty Gere, Nancy Howard, Betsey Mack, Mary Lord, Elizabeth Whitney, Phebe Wilkinson.

The first two of the above were the first deacons of the church.

In 1811 and '12, Rev. Joseph Wood, pastor of the First Congregational Church of Bridgewater, also officiated here a part of the time. About 1813 or '14, a young man by the name of Treat preached here for a time, and several members were added to the church, including Jacob Wilson and Cyril Giddings, who were afterwards elected as deacons, upon the deaths of Deacons Miles and Tiffany. A few others joined the church at intervals prior to 1818; in this year forty-seven were added, under the labors of Rev. M. M. York, a home missionary, who was with the church three months, and Rev. G. N. Judd, of Montrose, who came here July, 1818, and preached one-fourth of the time, for about two years. Among the additions of 1818, were "honorable women not a few," whose lives have been a blessing to the township, of whom Mrs. Stephen Breed, now in her 87th year, is the only survivor.

In 1823, the form of government was changed to Presbyterian. In 1825, the name of the church, after being called by the successive names of the township—Bridgewater, Waterford, and Hopbottom—became what it is at present, the Presbyterian Church of Brooklyn.

In the mean time, Rev. Mr. Judd had twice visited the church, after his removal from this section; and additional members had been received.

Rev. B. Baldwin labored as a missionary in Brooklyn a short time, and preached the sermon at the dedication of the first Presbyterian church-edifice, November 6th, 1829. In the following month, Rev. Sylvester Cooke commenced his labors here, and continued them fourteen years, "beloved by all who knew him." In 1844 he removed to Deckertown, New Jersey, where he still resides. While a resident of Brooklyn, he became the father of five sons, all of whom were in service against the late Rebellion. One of them, General Edwin F. Cooke, recently died in Chili, while serving as Secretary of Legation of the United States to that government.

Rev. O. Fraser succeeded Mr. Cooke at Brooklyn, remaining three or four years, when Mr. Baldwin resumed his missionary labors, preaching here half of the time for three years. Revs. Mr. Shaffer and Edward Allen filled the interim till 1858, when Rev. Wm. H. Adams came and remained ten years. Rev. George Spaulding, the present pastor, came in 1868. The church has about 50 members. A new house of worship was completed and dedicated January, 1872.

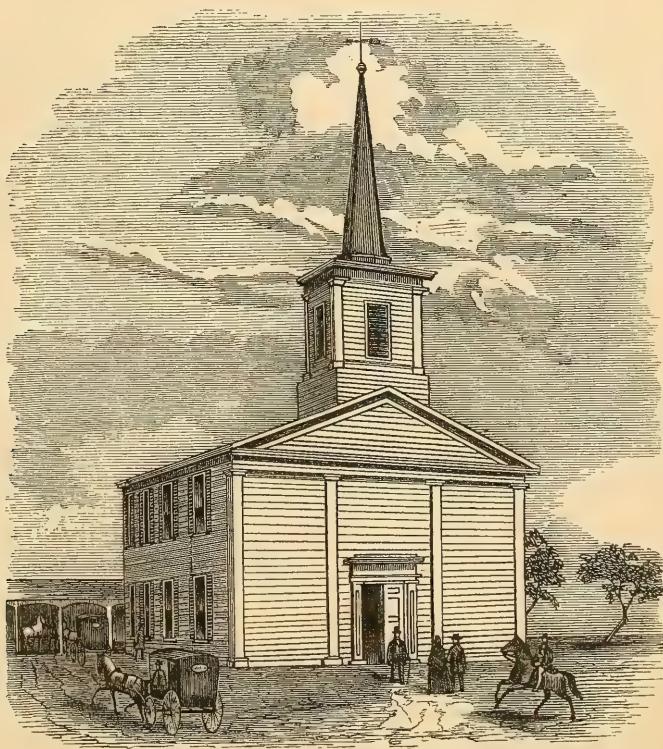
Mr. and Mrs. Judd organized a Sabbath-school as early as 1819. This was not long kept up, but a re-organization was effected in 1826 or '27 (J. W. Raynsford, Esq., assisting), and is still in operation.

UNIVERSALIST.

Rev. Barzillai Streeter, of Massachusetts, while on a visit to his brother, Dr. Streeter, of Harford, in 1820, was the first Universalist preacher in Brooklyn. The society of that denomination was not formed here until about 1822, after the arrival of Rev. Amos Crandall. It belonged to the Chenango Association, which met here for the first time, September, 1824.

Mr. Crandall died, "much lamented," July 2d, 1824. Very

Fig. 14.



OLD UNIVERSALIST CHURCH, BROOKLYN.

soon afterwards, the corner-stone of the "Universalian" or "Liberal" meeting-house was laid with Masonic ceremonies,

and the building was inclosed the same year. Upon its completion it was dedicated, November 17, 1825, Rev. C. R. Marsh, from Vermont, officiating. Previous to this, the meetings of the society had been held in school-houses, private dwellings, and sometimes in a grove. Mr. Marsh, a young man of much promise, continued preaching here until prostrated by sickness. He died March 10, 1828, and was buried with Masonic honors, as was also his predecessor, and both rest side by side near the church, on McIntyre Hill.

The following is copied from the original minutes of the society:—

“At a meeting held at the Universalist meeting-house in Brooklyn, on the 17th of December, 1826, proposals were made at the aforesaid time, to commence the formation and organization of a church, and those who felt willing were called upon at this time to manifest their wishes upon this subject, and the following named persons did present themselves at the above meeting, to wit: Charles R. Marsh, Brs. James Smith, Rufus Kingsley, Amos Bailey, Esek H. Palmer, Freemond Peck, Joshua K. Adams, James L. Gray, Frederick Bailey. Sisters, Annis Smith, Lucinda Kingsley, Prudence Bailey, Betsey Chapman, Almira Wright. Therefore the above-named brothers and sisters would invite others who feel firm in the faith of God's universal goodness and grace, and who feel determined so to conduct themselves, as to be instrumental in the good cause of the Redeemer—to come forward and unite with us on Sabbath-day, the 31st of January next, for the purpose of further organizing and consolidating said church, and those who cannot conveniently attend at said meeting, are desired to place their names, as well as others, to this paper—that we may ascertain our numbers, etc. Brooklyn, December 18th, 1826.”

This appears to have been only a renewed society organization, as the church was not organized until July 5th, 1868, under the present pastor, Rev. H. Boughton. It has now (1871) forty-nine members. “Church members are those only who sign the Declaration, Constitution, and Laws of the Denomination, and who are received according to the forms for admission of members. Baptism is conferred upon those only who desire it, but the Lord's Supper is an ordinance regularly observed in all Universalist churches as in others. A Sabbath-school of sixty scholars is connected with the church.

A subscription is raised, and a lot purchased, for a new church-edifice to be erected at Brooklyn Center; after which the old one will be taken down.

The Universalist ministers of Brooklyn from 1828 to 1867 were: Revs. George Rogers, Alfred Peck, Thomas J. Crowe, T. S. Bartholomew, James R. Mack, J. B. Gilman, A. O. Warren, N. Doolittle, and L. F. Porter. These, with those before mentioned, include nearly or quite all the ministers of this denomination who have been located in the county.

CHAPTER XI.

NEW MILFORD.

THIS township was established August Sessions, 1807, by Luzerne County Court. Its boundaries were described thus:—

“Beginning at the turnpike road on the south line of Willingborough, thence west along said line to the east line of Lawsville, thence south one mile and a half, thence west to the extent of five miles from said turnpike,¹ thence south to the north line of Nicholson township, thence east to Wayne County line, thence north along said county line to the southeast corner of Willingborough, thence west along the south line of Willingborough to the place of beginning.”

Besides its present territory, it then included all of what is now Jackson and Thomson, and a part of Ararat. It was reduced to its present limits by the erection of Jackson (then extending east to Wayne County), in 1815.

It is thought the name New Milford was given to the township in honor of N. Milford, Connecticut. Although Willingborough, for several years, had practically extended over the original area of New Milford, its southern line is nowhere officially described (except as that of a justice's district) lower than six miles from the State line; and thus, though the records do not state the fact, New Milford must have been taken from old Tioga township, since the strip between Nicholson and Willingborough had not been apportioned to a new township until 1807, though a petition for New Milford had been made two years earlier.

High hills and narrow valleys, with the exception of the valley of the Salt Lick Creek, mark the township which still exhibits well cultivated, richly productive, and excellent dairy farms. Quite a large number of sheep are raised. Next to grass, rye and oats are the heaviest crops. Beech, birch, maple, pine, and hemlock constitute the principal timber of the township. Some of the best land is on the ridges where the hard maple grows. There are very few oaks or elms in the township, and very little chestnut timber. Corn does better than formerly.

The south line of the township passes through the middle one of the three lakes, the upper lake being wholly north of it.

¹ On the large county map, the west line of the township is not marked more than three and a half miles west of the turnpike.

These lakes are the source of one of the principal branches of Martin's Creek.

Hunt Lake, about two miles east of the upper lake, is the chief source of Nine Partners' Creek, which passes through Harford.

Corse's Lake, or, as now known, Page's Pond, and the largest sheet of water in the township (covering about one hundred acres), is near the west line of Jackson. These lakes furnish fine water power for various mills and factories.

The larger part of Heart Lake¹ is within the west line of New Milford.

In the northeastern part of the township the outlet of East Lake forms, with that of Page's Pond, a large tributary to the Salt Lick. The sources of the latter and of Martin's Creek are within a few rods of each other, and this point is the summit of the Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Railroad—the two valleys furnishing a natural road-bed from Great Bend south across the county.

It is stated that Jedediah Adams came from Great Bend, in 1789, and did the first chopping in New Milford, whilst accompanying the surveyors of a Philadelphia landholder. He and his wife occupied a cabin on the flat, near the present site of the Eagle Hotel. They returned to Great Bend in the fall of 1790.

A hunter and trapper by the name of De Vough, or De Vaux, lived about the same time, in a bark shanty, which is said to have been the first *dwelling* in New Milford. It stood on the site of the residence of the late Wm. C. Ward, Esq., but the old well of the hunter was across the present road, near the hotel.

In 1790, Robert Corbett, with his family, was located on the Flat vacated by the hunter, and may be considered the first *settler* there. He came from near Boston, through the agency of Mr. Cooper, of Cooperstown, New York.

In 1799, a road was granted from his house to Solomon Milard's, in Nicholson (now Lenox). In 1801, he was taxed as "innkeeper," but must have left soon after, with his sons, Sewell and Cooper, for the mouth of Snake Creek—now Corbettsville. His son Asaph appears to have remained, as, in 1802, he was one of the assessors for Willingborough district, and, not far from this time, probably, built the first framed house in New Milford, on land now the garden of Henry Burritt. It was removed, years since, to the bank of the creek; and now, after

¹ There is an uncertainty as to the origin and orthography of this name, the general impression being that the lake, in shape, resembles the human heart. Another authority states that it was named after Jacob Hart, who lived in the vicinity.

seventy years, so sound are its timbers, it forms a part of the residence of Charles Ward. It had been the temporary home of several early settlers. Cooper Corbett, now of Binghamton, was born in New Milford, and is nearly or quite eighty-two years old. He is positive that his father was preceded by Mr. Adams in the occupancy of the flat.

Benjamin Hayden came in, single, March, 1794, and began a clearing, where, years afterward, he kept a tavern; the site of which is occupied by the residence of his grandson, William Hayden.

He married Ruby Corbett, a daughter of the pioneer. They had but one son, Warner, named after a son of Robert Corbett. Warner Corbett died March, 1795, at the age of seven years, and his remains are interred in the New Milford cemetery, near the Eagle Hotel. The stone that marks the spot appears to bear the oldest date of any interment there.

Benjamin H. died in 1842, aged 67. A contemporary wrote of him: "So long as probity and virtue have advocates, the memory of Mr. Hayden will be revered." His widow, Ruby, died in 1849, aged 70.

Warner Hayden married, in 1815, Sally, daughter of Andrew Tracy, Esq., who brought his family to what is now Brooklyn township, early in 1799. When they reached New Milford, Mr. Benj. Hayden, with his ox-team, helped them through Hartford, as their horses were pretty well tired out with the rough journey from Connecticut—28 days in all. At Martin's Creek they were met by Mr. Joseph Chapman, who conducted them to their new home, carrying in his arms the infant who was destined to become the mother of the eight "Hayden brothers;" five of whom reside in New Milford, one in New York, and two are deceased.

Warner Hayden was a saddler, and an enterprising man, keeping up establishments in two or three towns at the same time, and very successful. He died in 1850, aged 52. His widow is still living in New Milford.

David Summers settled in New Milford, two months later than Mr. Hayden. He had passed through this section in the fall of 1793, and secured a cabin which had been erected by some one (possibly one Smith, or a hunter by the name of Houck), on the spot, in Summersville, now occupied by his son James (now over eighty years of age). To this place, in May, 1794, he brought his wife and five sons: Eli, Calvin, David, James, and Ira; the youngest being then an infant. The spring was so far advanced that he could not have a garden that season on his own place, but cultivated one on Mr. Hayden's clearing, a mile and a half away; but Mrs. S. would run up there, after her morning's work was done, for garden-

sauce for dinner, and still do her day's work at spinning or weaving. The woods that lay between were then frequented by deer, bears, wolves, and panthers; but were the path the smoothest of roads, with no peril from wild beasts, as it is now, the woman of the present day could hardly compete with the pioneer matron in energy, and in the endurance of so many privations. David S. was originally from Fairfield County, Conn. He left there, in 1787, for Durham, Greene County, N. Y., and remained at the latter place until his removal to New Milford. Here he was an innkeeper in 1801; and, many years later, the hotel of his son Calvin, on the same spot, kept up the fame of its excellent table. Mr. Summers lived here to the close of his life, April, 1816. His age was 55. Mrs. S. survived him until 1844, dying at the age of eighty-four. She had lived just fifty years on the same farm.

Of their sons, David died in 1831; Calvin in 1852, aged sixty-six; and Eli, the eldest, who had been a resident of Illinois some years, August, 1870, in his eighty-eighth year; Ira, the youngest, now nearly eighty, lives near the brother who occupies the homestead.

In 1797, Samuel Hayden, father of Benjamin, was a supervisor of Willingborough. He lived nearer Great Bend than his son, but possibly not within the town limits.

Three sons of Hezekiah Leach, viz., Hezekiah, Daniel, and Samuel, were in the vicinity of the Salt Lick at a very early day; Daniel is mentioned on the records of Luzerne County, April, 1799, as a settler south of Robert Corbett on the old road to Great Bend from Mount Pleasant. This road, after passing Capt. Potter's in what is now Gibson, and soon after touching the old Brace Road (probably at Gibson Hollow), was made to run "thence to David Hamilton's, thence to Daniel Hunt's, thence to Daniel Leach's, thence nearly north to Salt Lick, thence to Robert Corbett's, thence 6 miles to the ferry at Great Bend."

It is not certain that Hezekiah Leach, Sr., came in at that time, but he spent many years in New Milford, and died there in 1823, at the age of 83 years. He was one of the patriots of the Revolutionary Army.

If Daniel Hunt was located, as we may suppose, near Hunt Lake, he must have left within a short time afterward. He married a daughter of Robert Corbett.

Hezekiah Leach, Jr. (or Capt. Leach), also married a daughter of Robert Corbett, and was a prominent member of the community. A sketch of his location, etc., written from information given by his son, George Leach, is copied from the Montrose 'Republican':—

"Among the once notable taverns on the Great Bend and Coshecton Turnpike—a section of that great thoroughfare, the old Newburg Turnpike—was one a mile south of New Milford village, at the cross-roads and forks of a branch of Salt Lick Creek. To a person standing on the high hills south of this junction, parts of New York State are visible through the valley stretching directly north to Great Bend. At the foot of this hill, on a fine meadow, was the greatly frequented public house of Hezekiah Leach. Mr. Leach came to the place from Litchfield Co., Conn., about the close of the last century, on horseback, bearing, besides his gun and other 'notions,' a sixteen-pound trap, of which he afterwards made good use.

"He took up some three hundred acres of land, which he greatly improved. He died January 1, 1840, aged 66, and his large family are now scattered from Boston to California. The land passed to Secku Meylert, Esq., and is now owned by Nathan Fish and Robert Gillespie, who have removed a part of the old house, and demolished the sheds, so that the place is no longer adapted to public accommodation. The present generation can little realize the number of emigrants and the amount of heavy transportation upon this road before canals and railroads came to the relief of oxen and horses, and entirely diverted travel from many of its accustomed channels. From Newburg and other eastern points, to the Lake country in New York and elsewhere westward, there was such a throng of travelers, that, even among that comparatively sparse population, several public houses were required where but one is now kept.

"In those days timber was plentiful, and the people got rid of much of it by working what they could into their buildings, which were certainly very strong. Mr. Leach put up a very large dwelling, and, on the opposite side of the road, corresponding barns. My informant was born on the spot, in 1802, and his earliest recollections were those of travelers, from year to year, filling the house from garret to bar-room; and of a cellar stored with liquors and eatables in their season, while the long sheds were crowded with horses and vehicles. Customers were moving at all hours, coming in until midnight, while others, long before daylight, at the summons, 'Hurrah, boys! we must be off again,' were starting away. On a rainy day, or when work was slack, crowds of men and boys would gather to pitch quoits, or play various games of skill and strength. Balls, sleigh-rides, and parties were frequent in winter. Whiskey was as common—and almost as much imbibed by most persons—as water. It was deemed an absolute necessity, on many occasions, where it is now disused. Liquors were then much purer than they now are, yet many a strong, good-hearted, useful man, through their seductive influences, came to poverty, disease, and death.

"Fish and wood-game were plentiful in early times. Mr. Leach was accustomed to say that during his residence here, he had killed 548 deer, 61 black bears, 1 white bear, 11 wolves, and 1 panther, besides wild cats and lesser game never counted. The 'white bear,' killed at Hunt Lake, was rather of a very light straw color; the skin was sold to a Judge Woodward, somewhere near Cooperstown."

Benjamin Doolittle, from Connecticut, was a taxable of Wilkesborough, for 600 acres, in 1799, but is not mentioned as a resident before December, 1801. He was located nearly one and a half miles west of the present Eagle Hotel. His wife was Fanny, daughter of Ichabod Ward, who came later. Their children were Nelson, Albert, George, Harry, Benjamin, and Lydia. Mr. Doolittle moved to Ohio many years ago.

John Foot, a shoemaker, was "a new-comer" on the tax-list, December, 1801. He lived next west of Mr. Doolittle. He

came from Vermont with his wife and three children—Timothy, Belus, and Amanda. Belus died in New Milford in 1841. His son Edwin was the first (1842) Daguerrean artist in Montrose.

It is probable that Nathan Buel and Peter Davis came in 1801. Josiah Davis, father of the latter, was in Lawsville. Mr. Buel then had two children—Arphaxed and Polly, afterwards Mrs. Leighton.

John Hawley was here as early as November, 1802. He was elected one of the overseers of the poor of Lawsville in 1804, though his location was within a mile of the Salt Lick. Hezekiah Leach was, the same year, a supervisor of Willingborough, though, certainly, three miles below the line of that town as recorded in 1791 and 1793. Both were in the same justice's district, which, from 1801 to 1806, extended from the State line, and included Lawsville and Nicholson, as well as Willingborough. These remote townships of Luzerne were little known at the county seat. Some of the inhabitants of Nicholson and Willingborough were placed in either at different times, as, for instance, "S. Hatch, taverner in Nicholson;" and "Abel Kent, Wright Chamberlin, and Hosea Tiffany, taverners in Nicholson and Willingborough."

Mr. Hawley lived less than half a mile east of Mr. Doolittle. "He, being a widower, had married a widow, and she had two daughters by her first husband, whose names were Merab and Roxanna Andrews. His sons were John (well known in later days as Deacon Hawley), Uriah, and Newton; his daughters were —— who married Elias Carpenter, of Harford (then the Nine Partners), and Betsey, who married Belus Foot, and lived all her life in the neighborhood."

Deacon Hawley died in 1866, aged 84; Merab, his wife, in 1830, aged 55; Phebe, his widow, in 1869, aged 83.

Christopher Longstreet, from New Jersey, may have been in earlier than 1803, since he bought out Robert Corbett, who appears to have left a year or two before this date; but at present nothing positive can be asserted of Mr. Longstreet's presence here until that time.

Mrs. Longstreet died in 1813; and, soon after "Col." Longstreet removed to Great Bend. "Old Prince," a colored man, who came in with them, remained in New Milford until his death, July, 1815. Like "Prince Perkins," of Brooklyn, he seems to have been quite noted in his day.

There were probably other settlers of 1803. Early in 1804, at least, Cyrenius Storrs, Job Tyler and family, and Joseph Sweet and family, were on the main road southeast from Captain Leach. Some of the posterity of the first named remain in the township.

Colonel Job Tyler (from Harford) had three children: Jared, now in Harford, but until recently in New Milford; Nancy, wife of Francis Moxley, on the Tyler homestead; and another daughter, Mrs. Brewster Guile of Harford. He was "an excellent farmer," public spirited, and quite widely known. He died in 1857, aged 77.

Joseph Sweet's farm was afterwards Jonas B. Avery's.

The substance of the following sketch was kindly communicated to the compiler in personal interviews with Seth Mitchell, Esq., but subsequently (Jan. 1872) some other listener prepared it for the 'Montrose Republican,' from which it is taken.

"Seth Mitchell was born in Roxbury, Litchfield County, Conn., April 9th 1785. Left an orphan at eight years of age, his boyhood was passed in hard labor and service, with very small opportunity for schooling, the nearest school being nearly two miles distant. When seventeen years old he worked one winter for his board and attended school, acquiring sufficient knowledge of arithmetic to enable him to transact all ordinary business. I have known him to beat good accountants in computing interest, both as to speed and correctness—and this when past threescore and ten. In 1804, when 19 years old, he came with Mr. Benjamin Doolittle to New Milford, Susquehanna (then Luzerne) County, and worked for him that summer, returning on foot to Roxbury in December. The next spring, 1805, he came again to New Milford, and bought 100¹ acres, being a part of what was long known as the 'Mitchell farm.' At this time, excepting two families, his nearest neighbors were distant six miles, south and west, the log house of Esq. Hinds being the only dwelling in Montrose, and there were no roads through the woods—even cut out. This season he worked two days in a week for his board, and two days more to get a yoke of oxen to use two days for himself, in this way clearing and sowing five acres, and returning to Roxbury in the autumn. In the spring of 1806 he came 'west' again, his brother Nathan coming with him and buying a lot adjoining. This summer he cleared and sowed eight acres more, going back east again at the approach of winter. In 1807 he came 'west' the fourth time, driving a yoke of cattle. Enlarging his clearing still more, he returned again to Roxbury to spend the winter. The spring of 1808 found him again early at his 'western home.' This season, besides clearing and fencing more land, he built a log house and frame barn, again going east in December to spend the winter. In February, 1809, he was married, and one week afterwards started 'west' to prepare his log mansion for his bride. In June next he returned to Roxbury and moved his family (wife) with a few necessary house-keeping articles, to their home in the woods of what was then 'the great west.' In 1815 he built a large frame house, which is still standing, and is at present owned and occupied by Mr. Ezra Beebe, nearly three miles west of what is now New Milford Borough. During these years and afterward he gradually added to his farm, until it finally numbered 470 acres. Three times he made the trip from Roxbury to New Milford on foot, twice driving before him a yoke of oxen, and twice he footed it from New Milford to Roxbury, carrying his clothes and provisions on his back, some of the way breaking his own path through snow knee deep. The distance was about 170 miles. At the age of 23 he was elected captain of a company raised in New Milford and Lawsville, having risen from the ranks. His commission was for four years. He afterwards served as justice of the

¹ He bought of the landholder Bound or Bowne. The Wallace estate joined that, and was principally in old Bridgewater (including Brooklyn).

peace ten years. The few old settlers who are now living still call him Captain or Esq. Mitchell. His wife dying, he married again in 1837, but has been the second time a widower for nine years. By his first wife he had eight children, five of whom are now living. He has cleared over 300 acres of land, and built more than 700 rods of stone wall—has built one log and six frame dwellings—seven barns, besides two horse-barns, cattle sheds, out buildings, etc. He has used no strong drink for the last forty-two years. He has been to the Mississippi River five times, once alone, after he was eighty-two years old. He is now nearly eighty-seven, with his faculties all well preserved, and recently walked from his home to Montrose (two and a half miles) to attend meeting at the Baptist church, of which he has been an active member about fifty years. He acquired a handsome competence, wholly by hard labor and judicious economy. As an instance of how money was made in early times, he stated that he raised large crops of corn with which he fattened large numbers of hogs, and packing the pork, carted it to the lumber region on the head-waters of the Delaware River, a trip requiring three days, and selling it on long credit. Pork was then worth five dollars and beef three dollars per cwt. Butter ten to twelve cents, and cheese five to six cents per pound."

Seth Mitchell was supervisor of the township fourteen years. The following is clipped from his autobiography.

"The first house that we stopped at when we came in, in 1804, was Captain David Summers's. He lived in a log house at what is now Summersville. He had then just built a frame grist-mill, which was quite a large building for this region in those days. In that year, a ball was held in Summers's mill, and was attended by the young people of New Milford, Great Bend, and Lawsville. There were about twenty-five couples present. The mill floor being smooth and the room large, it was a good place to dance. I attended. We had a very merry time. That mill was afterwards altered into a house, and became Summers's hotel—afterwards Barnum's—long famous for its good table, and much resorted to by young people and pleasure-seekers as Phinney's now is.

"The turnpike had been lately finished from Newburgh to Mount Pleasant when I moved out in 1809, but it was not then built from Mount Pleasant to New Milford.

"After living on the old farm about thirty years, I purchased an almost unimproved one, about three miles from Montrose, on Snake Creek, where I cleared up about fifty acres and built a house and barn."

Since 1857, the home of Seth Mitchell, with but temporary interruptions, has been in Montrose; and he is now (August, 1872) the oldest man in the borough. Three of his sons, Thompson, Norman, and Charles, are dead. Norman was a much esteemed deacon of the Baptist Church; his death occurred June, 1870.

In the spring of 1805, Josiah Crofut and Joseph Gregory moved in from Connecticut; and Seth Mitchell boarded with the former while he cleared five acres on his own land, which adjoined theirs. Provisions were scarce that summer, as everything had to be purchased at Great Bend. The large log-house was but half-floored below, and above there were only five boards, on which S. Mitchell's straw-bed was placed; and to which he climbed by the log walls. Josiah Crofut died in 1836, aged sixty-seven.

Seth and Nathan Mitchell boarded with Mr. Gregory in the summer of 1806. In 1807 Nathan moved into his own house, where he lived until his death, in 1816, at the age of thirty-five years.

Wm. Rockwell came to the township in 1805.

Asa Bradley came to New Milford about 1806. "He and his family were received by Deacon Hawley, with the hospitality common to those times, though he and his wife then occupied a small three-cornered room in his distillery, where they entertained Mr. Bradley and family, until a log-house could be built for them. Anxious to rid Deacon Hawley of their unavoidably burdensome company, they hurried into the new building before it was furnished with a more substantial door than a blanket. They took with them a pig, and put it into an inclosure attached to the house; but the first night they were awakened by its squealing, which sounded as if the animal were being taken off. In the morning they found it, some distance from the house, half devoured; and around the pen were the tracks of a panther. The question arose, if the animal had not found the porker, what was to hinder the ravenous beast from entering the house for his supper?

Freeman Badger had been in this vicinity prior to 1804, but had returned to Cheshire, Ct., and was not settled here before 1806. He was a prominent man in the township. He had one son, Frederick, and two daughters. He died in 1855, aged seventy-two; his wife Mary, died five days after him, aged sixty-seven. His father, David, died here in 1835, aged eighty-six; Mrs. D. Badger in 1828, aged seventy-five; but the exact date of their coming has not been ascertained.

About this time Nicholas McCarty bought the farm and tavern of Christopher Longstreet, and continued to keep a public house there until his death, in 1821. Situated at the junction of the Newburg Turnpike, with the road from Jackson and Harmony to Montrose, it became a noted place; and "McCarty's Corners" served long as a landmark for travelers. The McCarty House has been kept as a public house by various tenants, from that day to this, being at present the Eagle Hotel. Mr. McC., like those who preceded him, received his license directly from the governor, who granted it on the recommendation of the Court of Luzerne County (to which Mr. M.'s petition had been made, indorsed in the usual way by respectable men of his neighborhood), and was granted, the first time, January, 1807. Though, "In the Name and by the Authority of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania," he might sell "Rum, Brandy, Beer, Ale, Cyder, and all other Spirituous Liquors," it was "provided" that he should not "suffer drunkenness (!), unlawful gaming, or any other disorders." He had

a son named Benjamin, and three daughters, one of whom married Isaac Warner; another, John Boyle; and another, a man named King, who removed to the West.

Ichabod Ward came from Connecticut to Susquehanna County in 1807. He occupied a house near the site of the present residence of H. Burritt, and nearly opposite the Presbyterian Church. A pear tree planted by his hand, and still flourishing, marks the spot. He was long an active member and faithful officer and deacon of the Presbyterian denomination, and to him is due the honor of maintaining public religious services, in his own house, in the early days of the settlement—each alternate Sabbath uniting with the people of Lawsville in their neighborhood. He had two sons, William (who settled here in 1806, preceding his father one year), and Samuel much younger; and three daughters, Mrs. B. Doolittle, Mrs. Seba Bryant, and Mrs. Uriah Hawley. All, except the last named, removed, after some years, to Ohio and further west.

His second wife, Mary, who came with him to this country, was the mother of Seth Mitchell, at whose house she died in 1828, aged seventy-seven. Ichabod W. died four years earlier, and is buried in the village cemetery. His descendants, to the fifth generation, reside upon the land he helped to clear—an instance as rare as it is gratifying.

William Ward, of Litchfield County, Conn., was encouraged to come to Pennsylvania by his brother-in-law, Benjamin Doolittle. In 1806 he married Sally Briggs, in Roxbury, Conn., and came directly to this country. To the young bride this was, indeed, a wilderness, but she would not express her longing for the home she had left. She passed many hours, of the lonely first year, in watching her husband and assistants engaged in clearing the forest, from the identical spot now covered by the railroad depot and adjoining buildings. She little dreamed then of railroad and telegraph stations within sight from her door. The wonders of steam and electricity were then, indeed, not dreamed of by any one.

The following year their first child—the late C. L. Ward, of Towanda, Pa.—was born. They named him after the friend they found in the wilderness—Christopher Longstreet. Soon after this, they removed from the log house—the pioneer's first home, the site of which is now covered by the residence of their grandson, William T. Ward—to the first frame dwelling in this part of the county, and since known as the Ward House.

The late William C. Ward and two other sons were born in New Milford, previous to the removal of the family to Mt. Pleasant, where they remained a few years, and then returned to New Milford. In the mean time two daughters had been added to the family group; to which came in succession another son, and a daughter who died young, and then three sons.

Ten children lived together for years in the old homestead, little able to realize, from the comforts surrounding them, what privations their parents had experienced.

The following incident of pioneer life was related to the compiler by the heroine herself:—

“A large buck was one day chased by the hunter's dogs into Mr. Ward's clearing. Samuel Ward—then only a lad of twelve or fourteen years—who was living with his brother, seeing the animal stumble and fall, immediately sprang and caught him by the horns, at the same time calling to Mrs. Ward for assistance. Feeling her helplessness, but, with a true woman's courage and quickness of perception, realizing the dangerous position of her young brother-in-law, who was struggling to prevent the animal from regaining his feet, she hastened to unwind the long-webbed garters she wore, and with them speedily succeeded in tying its legs until a neighbor, who happened to be in calling distance, reached them and cut the animal's throat.”

William Ward was commissioned a justice of the peace in 1834. He was for many years in charge of and acting as agent for the DuBois Estate, also for the sale of the Meredith, Bingham, and Drinker lands, in which capacity he became widely known. A contemporary wrote of him thus:—

“Few of the citizens of the valley of the Salt Lick have done more to develop the resources and contribute to the prosperity of Susquehanna County than William Ward. To great perseverance and untiring industry in the pursuit of business, he added the most unqualified kindness, ever extending to rich and poor a cheerful hospitality. He was one of our most valued citizens.”

He died in New Milford, October, 1849, aged 64. His widow afterwards married one of the pioneers of Bridgewater, Joseph Williams, since deceased. She is now (1871) 84 years old, and the sole survivor in New Milford of the settlers who came prior to 1810. She resides¹ in the old Ward homestead, where eight of her children were born.

There seems to have been little accession to the settlement of New Milford during the five years succeeding 1807.

The first entry on the Town Records, March 18, 1808, mentions a town meeting at the house of John Hawley, when he and John Slater (here only a few years) were elected judges of elections; H. Leach, clerk; Thomas Sweet and B. Doolittle, supervisors and constables.

March 3, 1809.—N. Buel, clerk; B. Hayden and J. Gregory, supervisors.

[A list of ear-marks of sheep is the only further record until 1814. An entire gap occurs from 1848 to 1860, and from February, 1866, to September, 1871.]

About 1812, John Phinney came from Windham County, Conn., and settled on the hill west of the village. His father,

¹ Died August 17, 1872.

Samuel, came in shortly after, with his wife, and died — years later at Summersville. Mrs. Samuel Phinney's maiden name was Hyde; she escaped from Wyoming, at the time of the massacre.

John Phinney died in 1867, aged 85; Lucretia, his wife, in 1853, aged 66. The proprietor of the Eagle Hotel is their son.

Gurdon Darrow came from Groton, Conn., May, 1812. He served in the war of 1812. Sally, his wife, died in 1864, aged 75.

Thomas Sweet had a license, in 1812, to keep a tavern on the Newburgh Turnpike, not far from where the Baptists have their house of worship. He sold to Jonas B. Avery and removed to Harford.

Military parades were frequent in the vicinity. At one time the firing of cannon shattered the window-panes of Mr. A.'s house.

Jonas B. A. died in 1836, aged seventy; his wife in 1835, aged sixty-three. They had one son, Franklin N., commonly called Major Avery, who died in 1843, aged forty-seven; his widow, Rosana, died in 1869, aged seventy-two.

Ebenezer and Park W. Avery, brothers (of another family), from Groton, Connecticut, came in early and married sisters, the daughters of Jonas B. Avery. Ebenezer's farm is now occupied by D. W. Moxley, and that of Park W. (who returned to Connecticut), by Andrew S. Roe.

The taxables of New Milford, at the time Susquehanna County was officially organized, were sixty in number, besides non-resident landholders: Henry Drinker, Isaac Wharton, Abraham Du Bois, Robert Bound, Samuel Meredith, and Thomas Clymer. The highest resident-tax, in 1812, was upon a valuation of \$2550. John and Uriah Hawley owned a saw-mill, and David Summers and son James another.

Robinson Lewis (deacon), who died about 1858 at an advanced age, came from Groton, Connecticut, in 1813. He was a pillar of the Baptist interest in its early days. His widow survives him.

Jacob Wellman, William Phinney, John Dikeman, John Belknap, and Titus Ives were taxables of 1813. All remained in the township many years.

Jacob W. was a soldier of the Revolution. He died in 1830, aged ninety-one. His sons were John, Jacob, David, Berry, Hiram, and Calvin; the last named being the only one living. He, as also descendants of the others, are in N. Milford.

The first Scotch settlers were Daniel McMillen and Laffin (or Lauchlin) McIntosh, who were also among the taxables of 1813. During that year the court was petitioned to grant "a road from H. Leach's to Lauchlin McIntosh's—near the Middle

Lake. McFarley, McLoud, McKenzie, and others of Scotch birth, came in between the years 1814-17. William McKenzie lived where H. Burritt is now located. He died in 1827, aged seventy-six.

John Wallace, a Scotch-Irishman, came in 1814, from Delaware County, New York, with his son-in-law, Thomas Walker.

Ithamer Mott was taxed for land in 1813, but does not appear to have been a resident when the assessment was made. In 1814 he was licensed to keep a tavern; his house was near the top of one of the highest hills of the township, on the line of the Newburg Turnpike, and near the junction with it of the Philadelphia and Great Bend Turnpike. Mott's Hill is one a traveler could never forget, having once made the toilsome ascent, or dashed down from the summit in an old-fashioned stage-coach; and even with all modern improvements in road and vehicle, there are few hills one would care less to encounter.

Captain Thomas Dean, from Cornwall, Connecticut, in 1814, settled opposite Benjamin Hayden and remained in the township, or in what is now the Borough of New Milford, until his death at the age of ninety-one, June 22, 1870. For several years preceding his death he had been deprived of his eyesight, but passed his last days peacefully at the house of his daughter, the widow of Dr. Bingham. He had buried two wives.

Jonathan Moxley came from Groton, Connecticut, in 1814. His father's name, Joseph Moxley, is on the Fort Griswold monument at Groton, among those slain by the British under the leadership of the traitor Arnold, in 1781. Jonathan served in an emergency in that contest, but was never regularly enlisted. He died in New Milford in 1849, aged eighty-four; his wife, Sally, in 1826, aged sixty-seven. Of their seven children, two are living—the twin brothers, Francis and Gurdon. The present Sheriff, William Tyler Moxley, is a son of Francis. Gurdon Moxley speaks of having raised thirty-nine and forty bushels of wheat to the acre. The Moxleys occupy large farms around the corners where the Baptist meeting-house and Moxley school-house are located. The meeting-house was finished in 1851, and such were the prices of labor and materials at the time, and the liberality of the neighborhood, that the cost of the building was but \$1000.

John and Alpine Pierce settled in the northwest corner of the township in 1815.

"Tennant-town," in the southern part, retains the name of three brothers, Oliver, William, and Allen Tennant, and their half-brother, Benjamin, who leave a large posterity. Oliver T. was from Fisher's Island, in Long Island Sound; he came here in 1816, and died at the age of seventy-eight. William T. came from Shelter Island, Suffolk County, New York, in 1817, and

died at the age of seventy. Allen T. came from the same island in 1818; his first wife, Polly, died in 1833, aged fifty-four; his second wife, Camilla, 1853, aged seventy-four; and Allen himself, in 1858, aged eighty-two. Benjamin Tennant came in about 1820, and moved westward some years since.

In 1816, Silvanus Wade, a blacksmith; Joseph Paine, a tailor; Gaius Moss, a tanner; Chauncey B. Foot, a physician, and William Sabins, a shoemaker, were added to the community. The last named came from New Haven, Connecticut, with his wife and four children; he remained in New Milford until his death, at the age of ninety-one years, February, 1869. His widow is still living, aged ninety-one. They were married in 1803.

Darius Bingham also came in 1816. His wife, Sally, died in 1821, aged forty-seven. He was killed at the age of sixty, in 1828, by the fall of a tree. Their son, Lemuel, for some time kept a public-house just north of Capt. Leach's, where the late Deacon Mackey died.

Calvin and Gad Corse, Jason Wiswall, and Luther Mason were in New Milford about this time.

In December, 1816, the population of the township as reported by the assessor was 461, the males being 29 in excess.

Among the settlers of 1817, were Dr. L. W. Bingham (not the same family as above), John S. Hendrake, David G. Wilson (had a store), Stephen and Jacob Hart, Joseph Thomas (a store), Levi Page, and Enoch Smith. The last named remained here until his death, October, 1871, aged eighty.

Dr. Bingham boarded at Wm. Ward's, and tended store for him until he established himself as a physician. He wielded the pen of a ready writer, of newspaper articles at least, as early as 1819. On all the public questions of the day, he appears to have had decided, outspoken opinions. In his profession he had an extensive practice to the close of life.

Albert Moss came from Cheshire, Connecticut, in 1818, and engaged in business with his brother Gaius, and continues to reside in New Milford, enjoying the improvements that have been made in his day, and to which his own enterprise has contributed.

Samuel Hammond came from Cheshire County, New Hampshire, and bought a farm near the south line of the county—the same on which his son, Lieutenant-Colonel Asa Hammond, now lives, and to which he came the following year. The son has cleared over one hundred acres here. The father died in New Milford, the day he was eighty-two years old.

At this time (1819) William Ward kept a tavern as well as a store. Ira Summers had a clothing or fulling mill, and, soon after, an oil mill.



J. G. Smith
S. Mylert

Lincoln and Shubael Hall were here. Seth Mitchell kept an inn.

The same year, John Boyle, a native of Ireland, came to New Milford, at the age of nineteen years. A newspaper writer says of him:—

“His brain, industry, and energy were his capital. Men then worked hard for fifty cents per day and boarded themselves; and for ox team and driver one dollar per day—the men living upon game, and blackberries in their season. This was then a wild lumber country, but no outlet to markets. The market prices were—Lumber, clear Pine, \$7.50 per 1000; Wheat, \$1.00; Rye, 50 cents; Oats, 16 cents; Butter, 10 cents; and land worth from \$2.00 to \$3.00 per acre; and Pine Shingles, \$1.50 per 1000.

“The Newburg Turnpike was then the main road through this region, and remained so until the Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Railroad gave an outlet to the produce of the country.

“Mr. Boyle, the Irish emigrant boy, afterwards became, by appointment of the governor, county surrogate for ten years, and by election of the people, in 1851, associate judge for five years; and by marriage, industry, and good management, became the possessor of a large amount of the land now within the borough limits of New Milford.”

He married a daughter of N. McCarty.

James B., his brother, a carpenter, came in later, and bought of Benjamin McCarty the place now occupied by his widow.

He died in 1857, aged sixty.

Many other worthy men and women of New Milford were doubtless among the arrivals prior to 1820, but no definite record of them (with one exception) has been furnished the compiler. The interest of the following sketch, it is believed, will justify its extended mention of foreign affairs:—

Secku Meylert, born in the City of Cassel, Germany, December 24, 1784, was the son of Michael Meylert, a banker. He received a liberal education, and traveled extensively in Europe, spending two years in Paris during Bonaparte's early and brilliant career. Returning to his native city he applied himself to business with his father, with whom he remained for some years, and afterwards established himself in business as a banker in Cassel.

When the French army entered Germany he was offered and accepted a position, for a short time, as an officer of the staff, and participated in several engagements. On June 14, 1807, he was seriously wounded at the battle of Friedland, having had two horses shot under him, and was left on the field for dead.

After the affairs of Europe were settled by the victory of Waterloo, the old Elector of Westphalia was restored to power, he having promised to make concession to the people and to grant them a constitution. Mr. Meylert was one of those who believed in his promises and who favored his recall. The Elector, however, postponed the fulfilment of his word, and followed a reminder of his promise with exactions more rigorous, and a rule more tyrannical than before.

During this period, Kotzebue, aided by other writers as unscrupulous if not as able as himself, in the secret service of Alexander of Russia, flooded Germany with publications in the interest of imperialism and opposed to free government. The people of Germany had been led to expect concessions on the part of their rulers, and anticipated the speedy establishment of representative systems. Now, however, the attempt to form liberal in-

stitutions was ridiculed—every species of political amelioration was opposed, and a marked enmity was exhibited to the liberty of the press.

Good and true men throughout all Germany felt that these influences must be opposed and counteracted, or the cause of free government would be lost. No organization, however, was then in existence to accomplish this except the secret associations of the students in the universities. These were utterly insufficient for the purpose, and indeed must themselves be controlled and directed by the counsel of mature minds. An organization was soon formed composed of some of the most enlightened and liberal men throughout Germany, to withstand this tide of imperialism, and to exert an influence in high places for constitutional government. In Westphalia, this organization was strong and powerful. So carefully, however, were its affairs conducted that its very existence was not even suspected.

Before the plans of these associations were fully matured, a secret letter from Kotzebue to the Emperor of Russia was published, which so exasperated the students that it became difficult to control them and to moderate their wrath. One of their number, Karl Ludwig Sand, of the University of Jena, a young man of irreproachable character, but enthusiastic and fanatical, became impressed with an insane impulse to kill Kotzebue. For months he struggled to rid himself of this conviction, revealing it to no one, and at length went to Mannheim, and on the 19th of March, 1819, he assassinated Kotzebue in his own house, and then deliberately gave himself up and was subsequently executed.

Thus from this foolish, criminal act, all plans for amelioration of Germany had to be abandoned. The excitement throughout the German States was intense. The rulers immediately commenced a vigorous investigation to ascertain if secret political associations existed, and the leaders of such associations quietly absented themselves for a time until the excitement should subside. Mr. Meylert, who was the treasurer of and a leader in the central and main association in Westphalia, and who had made himself peculiarly obnoxious to the Elector, because he had not hesitated to remind him of his promises and to ask for their fulfilment, went to Holland, whence he was advised by his friends to return, or at most to absent himself for a short time to Sweden or England, but, disgusted with tyranny, and hopeless for reforms, he decided to come to free America.

In England, Mr. Meylert read the pamphlet of Dr. Rose of Silver Lake, then in circulation in Great Britain, which gave a glowing description of the fertility of the soil and advantages to persons emigrating, who should settle in Susquehanna County. This determined his destination.

In the summer of 1819 he arrived, and purchased 50 acres of land in New Milford—1½ miles from the present village—built a house and commenced clearing a farm. Unused to this kind of work, his progress was slow and his returns meagre. He added to his house a store, and kept a small stock of goods, but the country was thinly settled, money was scarce, and his sales were small. Some outside investments made by him proving unfortunate, the means which he brought with him soon wasted away.

Seeking occupation better suited to his education, he taught school for a short time; taught a class in the French language in Montrose, and was employed for a considerable time by Mr. Thos. Meredith in business relating to his lands.

In 1833 Mr. Meylert removed to Montrose, where he held the position of Clerk to the County Commissioners, and Deputy Register and Recorder. In 1844 he returned to his farm in New Milford, which had been greatly increased by the purchase of adjoining farms, and there lived until his death, Dec. 30th, 1849. During the later years of his life the agency of large landed estates was placed in his hands, and before his death he had charge of nearly all the land estates belonging to non-resident land owners in northeastern Penn-

sylvania. He had also purchased several bodies of wild land, and his New Milford farms then aggregated nearly 1000 acres.

Mr. Meylert married Abigail, the eldest daughter of Deacon Amos Nichols, of Montrose, Feb. 11th, 1821. She is now living in Laporte, in this State. They had five sons and three daughters, all of whom are now living.

Mr. Meylert was a highly educated man, being proficient in both ancient and modern languages, and excelling in mathematics. As a business man he was remarkable, having few equals in his capacity to transact business with great force, rapidity, and accuracy. He was an active member of the Baptist Church; a zealous Christian, kind and affectionate, and benevolent in every good work. He was a man of strict integrity and of great truthfulness—positive in character, and stern and unyielding in the performance of his convictions of duty.

The highest number of votes polled in New Milford, in 1814, was 19; in 1830, 57 (at town elections). The population in 1810, 78; 1820, 611; 1830, 1000. In 1844, the whole vote at Presidential election, 249.

The first merchant in New Milford was William Ward, in 1815. Within the next five years three or four small stores were opened; one of which was kept by James Edmunds and Capt. Dean, in 1815; first, in one of the Hayden rooms, and afterwards in the red house at the lower end of the present borough.

The second firm that had any permanence, was that of Grif-fing & Burritt, about 1821. The former was from Guilford, and the latter from Newtown, Conn. They dissolved in 1824, and kept separate establishments.

Henry Burritt has been longer in the mercantile business than any man in Susquehanna County; but, in several cases, the establishments of the fathers have been continued by the sons.

In 1827 Warner Hayden opened a store. The firm name was afterwards Hayden & Ward, "merchants and innkeepers."

In 1832 Wm. Ward and son were in partnership.

John McKinstry opened a store in Summersville. This was afterwards kept by Summers & Scott, Summers & Sutphin, etc.

Uriah C. Lewis was a practising physician in the township in 1828.

The borough of New Milford was petitioned for, Aug. 1859. The petition included the following statement respecting the locality:—

"It is a compact, regularly built, populous, and thriving business place, containing within its limits a railroad depot, two licensed hotels, two extensive tanneries, three churches, a large number of stores, shops, manufactories, and other business places, and private dwellings—the population and business steadily increasing." Decree of Court confirmed Dec. 1859.

The petitioners were a majority of the freeholders within the boundaries given.

The north line of the borough consists of 84 perches on the north line of the Hayden farm; the east line, 522 perches; the west line 527 perches; and the south line 234 perches, or nearly three times as many as the north line.

A newspaper writer, Jan. 1870, furnished the following items:

"The main street is a trifle over a mile in length, almost a dead level, and as straight as a 'bee line.' It is broad and well worked, with good side-walks on both sides of the road. Good-sized sugar-maple shade trees fence in the side-walks, from north to south, on both sides of the street; and the Park, in front of the Graded School and the Congregational Church, with graded and graveled walks, is shaded in like manner. The architecture of the buildings and grounds displays taste, refinement, modesty, neatness, and comfort, without the least appearance on the part of any one to over-reach, over-match, or over-display his neighbor.

"The 'Union Mills'—grist and flouring mills, sawing, planing, sash, blinds, and doors, etc., are suspended for the present. There are three cigar manufacturing establishments in the place, that carry on a large 'stroke of trade.' An iron foundry is energetically working its way into the confidence of the people. Two tanneries—one a 'custom establishment,' and the other a large manufacturing concern. It is now conducted by Messrs. Corbin & Todd, late of Ulster Co., N. Y., and successors to the Pratt Brothers. It now employs from twelve to twenty men, uses from 2000 to 2500 cords of bark per year, at \$5.00 per cord, and turns out from twenty to thirty thousand sides of sole leather per year. It is estimated that there is bark enough in the county to serve it for ten years yet—the proprietors owning enough bark land to serve it four years.

"A. B. Smith has a machine shop run by water-power.

"One drug store, and only two doctors—L. A. Smith and D. C. Ainey, supplying the region for miles around—speak volumes for the health of the locality.

"Eight mercantile establishments offer to the surrounding country their various wares. This is exclusive of the cigar establishments, that keep Yankee Notions at both wholesale and retail.

"With the exception of one store at Summersville, this is the market place for the whole township and parts of several adjoining townships. Besides the farming interests, there are in this township some dozen circular saw mills, each employing from twelve to twice that number of men, generally with families, all of whom seek family supplies from these stores.

"One banking house—that of S. B. Chase & Co.

"The public hall of the Eagle Hotel is used for lectures, concerts, and religious services, as well as for merry-makings.

"One printing office—that of the 'Northern Pennsylvanian.'"

Another writer says:—

"Our industrial interests, although in a newly settled region, begin to be felt as of some importance. From the 1st of June to the 1st of January, 1870, our lumbermen shipped at this depot, 3,720,000 feet of lumber. I think that every foot of this lumber was taken from the forests of this township, and it is believed that more lumber has been shipped at Somersville and Susquehanna Depot than at New Milford. Our dairymen have also shipped at this depot, through our village merchants, 240,169 pounds of butter, from the 1st of June to the 1st of January."

Sutton's, or the East Lake Steam Saw-mill, about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from New Milford Depot, runs during the entire year, and

furnishes the miners and railroads with large quantities of long timber.

In the summer of 1870 the pond belonging to Mr. Elliot Page, and which occupies a space of one hundred acres, was drained preparatory to a repair of the dam; when the fish, which had been accumulating there for about twenty-four years, were made an easy prey by the use of a net. In all, there were caught about six thousand pounds of pickerel, perch, chubs, suckers, bullheads, etc.

A gentleman of Lynn (March, 1869) says:—

“Forty years ago, beginning at the lower end of the town, the inhabitants were Benj. Hayden, and Warner his son, Captain Dean, old Esq. Wm. Ward, Albert Moss, Henry Burritt, John and James Boyle. Those few, with their families, composed the chief of the population where the village now stands. The writer lived nine or ten years very near the old Leach Farm. The old school-house at the foot of Mott’s Hill furnished some scenes that still distinctly linger in recollection. In those days the master was supposed to be *master* of the situation, without the necessity of calling in school directors. On one occasion a boy some nineteen or twenty years old became disobedient, and was forthwith brought up to be chastised. He very distinctly refused to accept the punishment; whereupon he was seized, and thrown upon the floor, and the whip applied. He being nearly equal in strength with the teacher, the result was doubtful till he was turned upon his face and became more easily managed. He then called to his sister to go home and have his brother, with whom he lived, come to the rescue. ‘Go quick!’ says he. ‘I will,’ she answered, and started. ‘Come back!’ says teacher. ‘Go on’ and ‘come back’ were alternately used for a while, when order was restored by a promise of future obedience.”

A remarkable case of longevity is mentioned:—

John Robinson, born in Dutchess County, N. Y., 9th November, 1770, died in New Milford 8th April, 1867. His widow Betsy died two years later, aged ninety-four. They lived together in the bonds of matrimony seventy-seven years, and reared a large family. Both were Baptists, and Mrs. R. had been a church member seventy-five years.

The poor-house for the township and borough is in the eastern part of the township. The farm was purchased of Jesse Baldwin for \$4000 and \$500 additional for stock. The institution opened April, 1871.

CHURCHES.

There are four churches in the borough: The Protestant Episcopal, dedicated November, 1829, was built principally through the liberality and efforts of David Badger, Gaius and Albert Moss, and William Ward, Esq., with the favoring influence of the rector of the parish, Rev. S. Marks.

The Presbyterian, though built later, represents an earlier denominational interest here; as also the Methodist, which was not built until 1848, though such class-leaders as Benjamin Hayden and Captain Dean held religious services in their own

houses at a very early day. Their church is on land donated by William C. Ward, Esq.

The Baptist society was constituted February 23, 1827. Their house of worship was dedicated January 15, 1851, in the Moxley neighborhood.

October, 1869, the Roman Catholics started a chapel, 26×50 feet, on land donated by John Boyle, but the frame was blown down the following month. In 1870 it was again upon its foundations, and was completed and dedicated July, 1871.

The name of William C. Ward is closely connected with a large portion of the business, political and social, interests of this township, as the high esteem and confidence of the people in imposing upon him offices of trust and responsibility fully attest. He held the office of justice of the peace nearly thirty years, and in the performance of his duties gained the name and character of peace-maker among his neighbors, generally succeeding in settling their disputes to their mutual satisfaction, and gaining the good-will of both the parties. He died February 24, 1871.

Respecting his eldest brother, the following is contributed :—

CHRISTOPHER LONGSTREET WARD was born in New Milford in 1807. He came of a race who found a home upon our shores in the infancy of our country, who shared in her struggles, and bore a loyal part in her early history.

He never lost the leaven of labor, the energy and vigor which have found root and borne fruit in the peculiar growth of American character. To these virtues he united something of the liberality and culture which are distinctive of an older and a riper civilization than our own.

He lent himself from his earliest youth to such studies as leisure would allow, and made himself acquainted with a very considerable range of reading; his mind was disciplined to hard work and to habits of industry.

His diversions indicated the bent of his mind. From the school-boy to the printer-apprentice, and through the initiatory studies of his profession, he gathered many curious things, and delighted in arranging them appropriately; and in later years this propensity led to his acquisition of a most valuable collection.

With freedom from other demands upon his time, he might have fallen upon some congenial path in the world of letters. He did not yield himself to such a career, but knew much of its consolations amid the cares of business. [His connection with the press, and his occupancy of positions of trust in Susquehanna County, are mentioned on other pages of this work.]

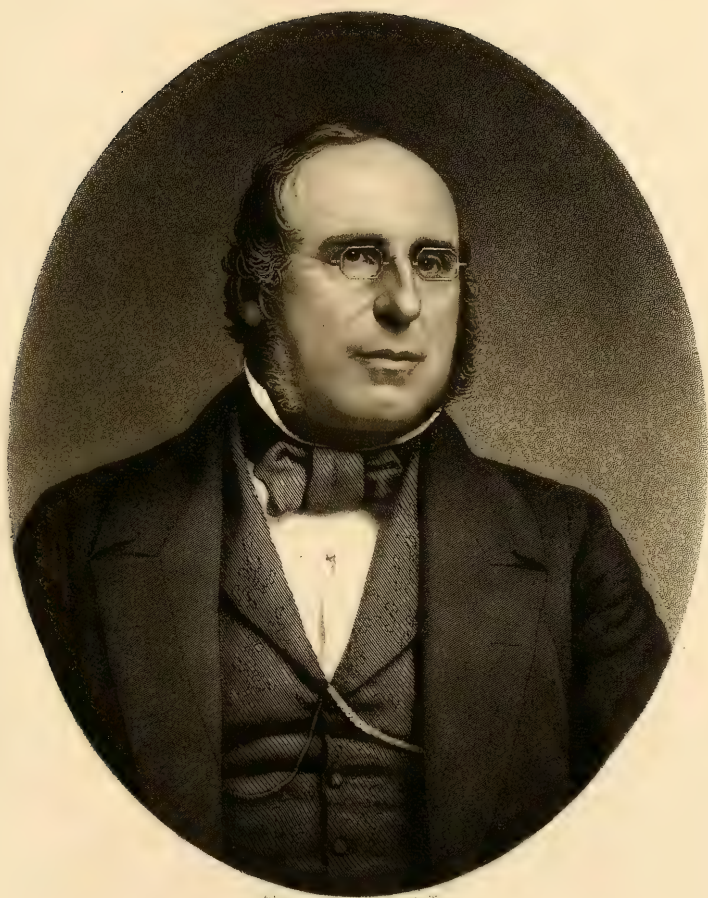
He removed to Towanda, Bradford County, more than thirty years ago, and lent his aid to many enterprises of lasting benefit to the town.

He was the President of the Atlantic and Great Western Railway during its construction through Pennsylvania, and through his instrumentality the means for its early completion were obtained in Europe.

He never deviated from the resolution formed in early life of not entering the political field to hold office, though high honors were tendered him during more than one presidential term.

In political matters he was a tried and trusted counsellor to those with whom he affiliated, and felt the deepest interest in all the important measures of the day.

The laborer and skilled workman profited by his enterprises; the debtor



C. S. Ward. -

knew his forbearance; the poor blessed him. The following incident is worthy of notice as illustrative of his generosity and unsolicited benevolence:—

Such was the confidence felt in the officers of the Susquehanna County Bank, that many persons, including several lady school-teachers, had their savings in its notes. When the bank failed, Mr. Ward felt so keenly the sufferings inflicted upon the latter, that he, though not an officer of the bank, redeemed with his own funds several hundreds of dollars of the worthless notes in their hands.

Those who knew him well remarked that *he had a habit of doing and intending a kindness without admitting the intention*. His hospitality was liberal to friends and strangers. His acquaintance, by reason of his active and varied course of life, extended widely among the leading men of his time. He had considerable knowledge of the early history of the section in which he lived. Though progressive, he loved the traditions of the past, and honored and respected the men who removed the wilderness, and laid the foundations of both local and national progress.

His love of books and his superiority of taste, united to rare system and method, enabled him to collect many thousands of volumes, selected with great care, and containing, it is stated, more rare works than can be found in any private library of the country. His collection of autographs was unusually complete; and by his skill in arranging, mounting, and illustrating them, they constituted a unique feature of his literary possessions.

He was a well-read and clear-minded lawyer, respecting and respected by the profession, but his business affairs multiplied year by year and took him from active practice, though it had been attended with abundant success. To the extent and variety of his labors may be attributed, in part, the sudden and comparatively premature closing of his life.

He died at Towanda, May 14, 1870, aged sixty-three.

CHAPTER XII.

HERRICK.

THIS township was formed from parts of Gibson¹ and Clifford, May, 1825. Its original extent was eight miles on the Wayne County line, south from the N.E. corner of Gibson (then near Long Lake, or Dunn's Pond, now in Ararat), by four miles and a half east and west—a right-angled parallelogram. It was reduced to its present proportions in 1852, having then parted with three-eighths of its former territory on the north. It received its name in honor of Judge Edward Herrick, who was then presiding over the Courts of Susquehanna County, which was included in one district with Bradford and Tioga. He had been appointed for this district upon its erection in August, 1818, and he continued to preside over it twenty-one years,

¹ The court had been petitioned, May, 1815, to have Gibson divided "through the centre from north to south; the 'westernmost' part to retain the name of Gibson, and the new town to be called *Lawrence*." Nothing further appears in relation to it.

lacking one term of court. Judge Herrick is still living at Athens, Bradford County.

"Though now (1870) 82 years of age, he is as erect as ever, and loves to converse, with his older acquaintances especially. Enjoying the fruits of early care and industry, he takes little interest in the contests of the day for wealth or honor; but in the bosom of his surviving family, and in the society of books and papers, he is a good specimen of vigorous old age. Though he was the weakest of a large family of children, he has outlived them all, thanks to his calm and equable temperament, and the good providence of God."

That section of the township north of the Great Bend and Coshecton Turnpike, is but sparsely settled. The principal timber left there is hemlock. The traveler, in entering the town by the road from Ararat church, passes through woods where there is not a resident for a mile and a half; and, if in summer, seems to be going through a tunnel roofed with green interlacing boughs, which for some time close to him the view of the exit beyond. The surface here appears to be a continuation of the broad table-land of Ararat, gradually sloping to the south, from which spring the sources of the east branch of the Tunkhannock. The west branches of the Lackawanna, rising in Ararat, are but slender streams in the northern part of Herrick, which is cold and wet compared with the section below the turnpike. The latter is a good farming country, though but little wheat is grown. The best crops are oats and corn.

The township is walled in by mountains on two sides. The Moosic Mountain ranges along the eastern border, and the two peaks of Elk Mountain tower in the extreme southwest, though Prospect Rock is just below the township line; while East or "Tunkhannock Mountain" (as it was formerly called), rises a little beyond in Gibson, and extends nearly to the line between Herrick and Ararat.

A road traversed the township prior to January, 1798, which was even then known as "the old Brace road." A part of this has been traveled within the memory of present residents; but its route beyond the limits of Herrick seems very indistinctly defined.

At the time mentioned above, the Court at Wilkes-Barre appointed a committee to see if a new township was needed, "beginning at the line of Northampton County (now Wayne) where the Brace road crosses said line, then running due west," etc. etc.

At the same term a petition was presented for a road to Great Bend, from Samuel Stanton's near the line of Northampton County (or near Mount Pleasant):—

"To begin at the line of said county, where *the road* crosses said line, and run west to the third Lackawanna bridge; thence to Abel Kent's, thence to Asahel Gregory's, thence to Johnson's Creek, thence to D. Church's, thence to Tunkhannock Creek, thence to Joseph Potter's, *thence to old Brace road*, thence to David Hamilton's, then to Daniel Hunt's, then to Daniel Leach's, then nearly west to Salt Lick, then to R. Corbett's, then north six miles to the ferry Great Bend—23 miles." [See Gibson.]

This, with an alteration afterwards made, was approved and confirmed, April, 1799.

The route proposed is given here to show that the roads were distinct from each other. The line of the Great Bend and Coshecton turnpike, run a few years later, follows the latter in its general route; but the Brace road appears to have been designed to connect the road cut through to Great Bend, by settlers of 1791, with the north and south road in Northampton County, some miles below the point intersected by the road mentioned above.

A road from Belmont to Tioga Point, though never completed, is laid down on Proud's Map of Pennsylvania (1798), as "the grand route northwestward, and the *only* road in the section now included in Susquehanna County."

At that time Herrick was within the limits of Nicholson township, which then covered territory now embraced in five whole townships, and parts of three more in Susquehanna County, besides a strip of the counties below. Thus we find on the court records mention made of a road "from the Brace road *in Nicholson*."

It appears to have left Northampton Co., at a point due east from the head of Stillwater Pond, in Clifford, and crossing the northeast corner of the township as it is, entered Herrick near the present farm of E. Carpenter. It passed through the orchard of Major Walter Lyon (late that of Wheeler Lyon), and is said to have intersected the old road to Great Bend not far from the west line of Herrick.

But, controverting this idea, it is the prevalent opinion that it terminated on the top of Tunkhannock (East) Mountain, in Gibson. This, in turn, is discountenanced by the statement that "it crossed the northeast corner of Nine Partners," as an order was issued August, 1800, for a road "from Van Winkle's mills on the Brace road," to run westward from Martin's Creek.

The principal lakes of the township of Herrick are Low Lake and Lewis Lake. The former was named after John N. Low, an early settler who died previous to 1814. It is one mile long, and is near the centre of the township. At its outlet, Lewis Lake, near Uniondale, has superior water privileges. Just above the turnpike there is a large reservoir made by a dam in one of the tributaries of the Lackawanna. This stream, with two tributaries to Tunkhannock Creek, drains the township.

SETTLEMENT.

Nathaniel Holdridge was probably the first settler; it is stated he was here as early as 1789. He removed soon after to Great Bend, then Willingborough.

In 1790-'92, Abel Kent and his brother Gideon, with their families; Asahel Gregory and family; Jonas and Sylvanus Campbell; Daniel Church, and — Hale (two hunters), came over the mountain, or *via* the Susquehanna River, into this secluded region, where they were joined in the latter year by Walter Lyon. The only other settler known to have come in before 1800 was John C. Awalt.

Abel, John, and Carlton Kent were brothers (Carlton 2d was son of Abel); and Gideon and Durham sons of Gideon Kent, Sr. The old road of 1791 passed the vicinity of their clearings, which were known as the "Kent Settlement" many years. It was about four miles west of Belmont, and nearly a mile south of the Great Bend and Coshecton Turnpike, and a little west of the Wilkes-Barre turnpike, or where these roads were afterwards located.

Abel Kent was a "taverner," as early as 1798, on the farm now owned by Mr. J. Thomas. He died in 1806. His brother John then kept a public-house on the old road until 1812, when he built and removed to a tavern at the junction of the two turnpikes.

Asahel Gregory, who also had lived on the old road, then moved up to the turnpike, about half a mile west of John Kent. He was the first justice of the peace in this section. His career was an active one for the times, in the hardships of which he had a full share. He brought his family down the Susquehanna River to the Bend on a raft, and when their destination was reached he built a log hut, peeled bark to shelter the bed, and took possession.

Mr. Gregory lived in Herrick over forty years, when he removed to the residence of his son Samuel, in Bridgewater, where he died April, 1842, at the age of 83. He was a Revolutionary pensioner. His remains rest in the burial lot on Dr. Asa Park's old place.

Hubbel Gregory, his son, had a small store, about 1820, near his father's residence in Herrick. He removed to Michigan, and died at Ann Arbor, in the 72d year of his age.

Traditions of the exploits of the hunters Church and Hale are still extant, but some of them have too improbable an air for sober history. Hale pursued his calling *con amore*. Once, when entertaining a friend at his house, he heard that peculiar barking of his hounds which announced the approach of game, when he exclaimed, "Oh, what heavenly music!" His friend,

not appreciating a hunter's taste, or not understanding the cause of his pleasure, replied, "The d—d hounds make such a noise I can't hear it!"

Jonas Campbell remained in this vicinity at least twenty years. He married a daughter of Mr. Awalt; their son was drowned in their spring in his second year, and his body was the first buried in the cemetery at Uniondale, June, 1811.

Walter Lyon came from Ashford, Conn., in 1792, with his wife and one child on a rudely-fashioned sled, a yoke of steers, and an ax; his wife's stepfather (Green) drove in a heifer for her, and carried a pair of steelyards—all their worldly effects. He bought of John Clifford 400 acres, on which he afterwards built the large house in which he lived and died; and, adjoining this tract, he bought 100 acres of William Poyntell (a landholder who died, 1811, in Philadelphia), and paid for the whole, within a few years afterward, by lumbering on the Delaware River. He had also 200 acres additional.

His family was large, including five sons—Wheeler, Jacob, John, Henry, and Walter, to whom he gave five large adjoining farms, the road through which has been named "Lyon Street." Their descendants are numerous in the vicinity.

In early times, he was obliged to take his grain to Great Bend on his back, and return with his grist in the same manner. Once, when the water was low, he was obliged to wait for his grist three weeks; and, not wishing to make a second journey, he hired out to husk corn. In the mean time, his family had only potatoes and milk to eat, and were in great fear for his safety, as his route lay through forests then traversed by bears, panthers, and wolves, and broken by only a few clearings.

He was an active man in township and county affairs, being justice of the peace, a major in the 76th regiment Pennsylvania militia, and a county commissioner, besides being often intrusted with other public business. He went on foot to attend court at Wilkes-Barre before the organization of Susquehanna County. He died in 1838, aged 68.

Wheeler Lyon, his eldest son, occupied the homestead until his death, February 20, 1870, aged 76.

Walter L. died in the spring of 1872.

Jacob L. was colonel of the "Washington Guards," a volunteer battalion of Pennsylvania militia. He was "honest, patriotic, intelligent, public-spirited, and generous." He died May 10, 1854, aged nearly 58 years.

John Coonrod Awalt was one of the Hessian soldiers that England hired to fight her colonies of this country; and of those who, after the war, chose to remain here. He located on the road leading from Frost Hollow to Mt. Pleasant, and within

a few rods of the county line. He had a large family of children, most of whom had arrived at maturity previous to 1807.

Seth Holmes was, early in the century, if not previously, located southwest from "The Corners."

Luke Harding and his son Elisha were also here early; their farm was next above Major Lyon's, and joined Abel Kent's, on the opposite side of the road.

Joseph Sweet settled, about 1804 or 1805, on the farm now owned by James Curtis, near the present tannery of Ira Nichols, a locality which, as the center of business, is also called "Herrick Center," though very nearly on the east line of the township. He kept a tavern very early where, after the Newburgh Turnpike (Great Bend and Coshecton) was completed, a popular house was kept by Sylvanus, son of Ithamar Mott, of New Milford. Here stages and relays of horses were at all times in readiness to supply the heavy demands of the road. Mr. Sweet sold and moved away about 1815, and Ezra Newton had a part of his farm.

In March, 1807, Asa Dimock, Sr. (an older brother of the late Hon. and Elder Davis D.), came from Pittston, Pa., with his wife and four children, to a log house of one room, which had been built for a school-house, on the old road south of the turnpike, a little southeast of A. Gregory. He moved up with the others when the turnpike was finished (or about 1811), and located about one hundred rods east of John Kent's tavern, which was afterwards and for a long time kept by his son, Warren Dimock. The locality was known as "Dimock's Corners," though the post-office kept by him was named Herrick Center, and retained the name until its removal, in 1858, to its present location on the Lackawanna. W. Dimock was appointed postmaster in 1826.

Asa D. was appointed a justice of the peace by Gov. McKean during the summer of 1808, and by Gov. Snyder was commissioned as major of the 1st battalion 129th regiment Pennsylvania militia. This was composed of the militia of Northumberland, Luzerne, Ontario (Bradford), and Susquehanna counties.

He was the first blacksmith in the vicinity, and built a shop near his residence on the turnpike.

He carried the United States mail from Chenango Point to Newburgh, on the Hudson River, once a week, sometimes on horseback, and sometimes in a single wagon or cutter.

"I recollect," says his son Shubael, now of Wisconsin, "his coming home from Newburgh with the mail, flying a white flag from a pole stuck up in his cutter with the word 'Peace' inscribed on it in large letters. This, at the close of the war with England, caused great excitement along the road.

¹ Asa D. was postmaster of "Dimock's Post-office," here, as early as 1815, but the township was then included in Gibson.

"Often have I heard the panther scream and the wolf howl in the wilderness around us, and seen the scalps brought to my father, to secure to the successful huntsman a certificate for the bounty allowed for them. I recollect an old hunter (Wademan) once came in my father's absence, and, while waiting for his return, he took out from his knapsack some nice white-looking meat to eat for his dinner, and, at the same time, invited us to taste it. I was the only one who accepted the invitation, and then he told us it was the meat of the panther he had killed."

John Kent, Asa Dimock, and Parley Marsh, a school teacher (1812-13), were the first settlers at or near the Corners.

In 1818, Asa D. removed to Clifford, and purchased a farm of Amos Morse, who lived half a mile below "the city," down the east branch of the Tunkhannock. Two years later he was located on the present site of Dundaff, where there was but a hat shop, a school-house, and three dwellings.

[Another statement: "Asa Dimock, Sr., had a store (1817) on the corner opposite (and south) of the hotel which was then kept by Warren Dimock. It then consisted of only the present back part of Phinny's. These were the only two houses in 1817. There was then no road past Crystal Lake, but it was being cut out."] Asa D. removed, in 1827, to Lenox, where he resided with his son Shubael to the close of his life, in 1833. Warren and Shubael had returned to the "Corners."

In the month of September, 1807, Edward Dimmick, and his son, Martial, came from Mansfield, Conn., and located on the Lackawanna, not far from the present church at Uniondale, the father having bought three hundred acres of Thomas Meredith. In the spring of 1808, he brought in his family, consisting of a wife and eight children. As the spelling of the name indicates, there was no relation existing between this family and that of Asa Dimock, who preceded Edward Dimmick only a few months in coming to the township. John Coonrod Awalt and Joseph Sweet were the only settlers then in the vicinity of Uniondale, except two or three outside the present bounds of Herrick. David Burns was four miles below, in Clifford, and Sam. Stanton had been settled some years, about three miles northeast, at Mount Pleasant. Mr. Dimmick had been a Revolutionary soldier. His sons were Martial, Eber, Joshua, Tilden, Edward, and Shubael.

In his reminiscences of early days at Uniondale, his oldest son, Martial, communicates the following:—

"In July, 1808, towards night, there came a thunder shower, which continued till near midnight; and although I have lived here sixty-two years, I have never seen, I think, half as much water in the Lackawanna, at one time, as there was the next day. It swept bridges and all before it to its mouth. Everything in our little cabin was as wet as though it had been dipped in the sea. In June, 1809, I went to the Chenango River, five miles above its mouth, to one Mr. Crocker's, and brought three bushels of corn on horseback, between forty and fifty miles, as none could be obtained nearer.

But what a change has taken place in the sixty-two years since I came to this section! Then it was woods, woods, all around, abounding with wild animals; and these were really necessary for food for the inhabitants. One could shoot and kill a large fat buck that would weigh about two hundred pounds, and nice wild turkeys that weighed twenty-one pounds dressed, or catch them in traps, as I have done. The Lackawanna Creek, passing right through the settlement, swarmed with speckled trout. Surely these were almost the staff of life, for bread was often scarce; but this game has passed away, and the time which made it necessary.

"The settlers had many sore trials to pass through; poor roads, poor houses, a want of buildings to store what little they did raise, and a want of many things they had been used to having before they came here; but with all their trials, there was some real enjoyment."

In 1810, Blackleach Burritt, Hezekiah Buckingham, Abijah Hubbell, James Curtis, from Connecticut, and David N. Lewis, from Wyoming Valley, came with their families into the neighborhood. Lewis Lake received its name from the latter, and near it he had a grist-mill—the first in what is now Herrick.

Blackleach Burritt settled first on the Flat, near M. Dimmick, but afterwards moved to the Wilkes-Barre turnpike, below Stephen Ellis, in Clifford, where he died. His widow died in the fall of 1869, aged ninety-one. His sons were Grandison, now in Wisconsin, Samuel, Rufus, and Eli. One other died young, and Rufus, at two years of age, was drowned in the creek, during the fall of 1813. Of the sons of Samuel Burritt, Loren P. has represented this county in the State Legislature two years; and Ira N. is now private secretary to President Grant to sign land patents. Both did active and protracted service in the Union army.

About 1809, Philip J. Stewart bought a part of John Kent's farm, and built a house opposite him.

In 1810, Stephen Ellis and family came in from Connecticut. J. T. Ellis, his son, at present one of the commissioners of Susquehanna County, was then but five years old. They were located near the Tunkhannock Creek, on what is now Lyon's street. Stephen E. bought of Moses Wharton, a large landholder in that section. He was afterwards a Revolutionary pensioner. He died November, 1847, aged eighty-four. His son, Capt. H. H. Ellis, died in 1828.

"Smith's Knob," a hill near Uniondale, was named after Raynsford Smith, a settler in the vicinity, in 1811, whose residence was, however, just over the present line of Clifford.

In 1811, James Giddings, formerly a sea-captain, came from Connecticut, and purchased a farm of Asa Dimock and Walter Lyon, Sr., next above that of the latter. He had thirteen children, twelve of whom lived to adult age.

His son, Giles A. Giddings, left Susquehanna County in 1835, and died in 1836, from wounds received in the battle of San Jacinto, Texas. J. D. Giddings, a lawyer, went to Texas in

1838, to take care of the landed property his brother Giles had left; and there he accumulated a large fortune before the War of the Rebellion. George H., another brother, is also in Texas. Still another brother, John J., who went there as mail-contractor, was killed on the plains by the Indians early in 1861. Several daughters of Capt. Giddings married and settled within the county. Near a spring on his farm, traces of its former occupancy by Indians have been found, such as beads, pipes, hatchets, etc.

In 1812, Eli Nichols settled on the place now occupied by his daughter, the widow of Samuel Burritt, Esq. He gave, three or four years afterwards, a large number of books to form a library for general circulation, which were kept for years at Mr. Ellis'. The postmaster at the present "Center," Ira Nichols, is his son, and to his enterprise the locality is indebted for much of its recent prosperity. A large tannery and a store are under his management, at the point where the old Newburg turnpike crosses the Lackawanna.

In 1813, a road was laid out from Gideon Kent's to A. Gregory's.

About this time, possibly a year or two earlier, Wm. Tanner kept a tavern on the turnpike near the western line of the present township.

A year or two later, Dr. Erastus Day succeeded him, and became quite a prominent man in the vicinity.

Saw-mills were built or owned by Asa Dimock and Carlton Kent.

"On the 6th of July, 1814, about 5 P.M., there came up a thunder shower, accompanied with a hurricane," says Mr. M. Dimmick, "which leveled almost everything before it, for five or six miles in length and about a half-mile in breadth, commencing on the north side of Elk Mountain, and reaching to Moosic Mountain. It unroofed buildings and tore down others, and opened a new world in appearance."

The first store, for many miles around (except that of Joseph Tanner, in Mount Pleasant), was kept, in 1815, by M. and E. Dimmick, at Uniondale. People came to it from ten and fifteen miles, and even farther, to trade.

The year 1816 was marked here, as elsewhere, by the peculiarity of its seasons. "The most of January and the whole of February was like what our weather generally is in September—the ground dry and dusty, and the atmosphere warm and pleasant as summer. This was followed by a cold sickly spring and summer. Many died of 'inflammation of the lungs.' It snowed in June."

Philip J. Stewart kept a tavern in 1816, and Eber Dimmick in 1817, on the Newburg turnpike. In 1818, A. and Hubbell Gregory opened another.

In 1817, Rev. Williams Churchill came to the township from Rhode Island. His wife is a descendant of Roger Williams, the founder of Rhode Island. They celebrated their golden wedding May 18, 1870, in Herrick, surrounded by nine of their children, and others of their descendants.

In 1819, the first school-house in the southeast part of the town was built, and a teacher (Gurdon H. Tracy) kept school in it a few weeks, when it was burned.

At this time, Uniondale, as well as all of Herrick, bordering on Clifford (below a line extended to Wayne County from the line between Gibson and Clifford), was in the latter township. It was not until six years later that Herrick was erected.

It is difficult here, as elsewhere in our county, to associate the early settlers with the name of a township which now includes the places of their former abode, but which had no existence until they had passed away.

Thus, prior to 1796, the settlers on lands now within the bounds of Herrick, were in the old townships Tioga and Wyalusing, Luzerne County. From that time for ten years they were in Nicholson; from 1806 to the organization of Susquehanna County they were in Clifford; from 1814 they were, with the exception mentioned above, included in Gibson, until, in 1826, the tax-list of Herrick was made out for the first time, the township having been erected the year previous.

By reference to the annals of Gibson it will be seen that a division of the township had been petitioned for once or twice before the eastern part was set off for Herrick. The peaks of Elk Mountain and the ridge of Tunkhannock or East Mountain formed a barrier to oneness of interest among its inhabitants, and to ease in the transaction of township business.

To the writer, while on a recent visit to that section, it was a matter of surprise that they had continued so long together; but it was then no longer a surprise that the people of Herrick, as early as 1827, 1831, and again in 1839, sought to be set off with Clifford, to form a part of a new county, proposed on our southeastern border. The natural features of the country countenanced the wish, as at the present day, most of the business of the section is done with Carbondale and Scranton; but it is none the less painful to see our own county more foreign to some of its inhabitants than Wayne and Luzerne. Happily, political considerations just now are too powerful to make them desirous of any immediate change of county relations. The completion of the Jefferson railroad facilitates egress from their retreat southward, and also brings them into readier communication with the townships north of them, and may thus ultimately unite them to the interests of their own county.

RELIGIOUS AND MISCELLANEOUS.

In the Kent Settlement a Methodist class was formed in 1810.

The earliest notice of any religious services in the vicinity of Uniondale is related thus:—

“In 1812 there came along an old man, and stopped at the house of Mr. Buckingham, just before night, and, giving out that he was a minister, appointed a meeting. The whole neighborhood assembled at short notice, and had a good meeting. Though the preacher, Phillips, a Baptist, could give a good discourse, he was very illiterate, being unable to read writing at all.

“The neighbors gave him a piece of land and built him a small log-house, where he lived alone. He preached for us about a year.

“In the fall of 1813, Mr. Hill, a missionary from the Connecticut Society, came and labored for a short time, and in the winter following there was quite a revival. A Congregational Church was formed by Rev. E. Kingsbury and Rev. Worthington Wright of Bethany; ten of its members being in this vicinity, and five in Mt. Pleasant. In 1833 the connection between them was dissolved, and the Uniondale Presbyterian Church was formed with forty-three members. Their meeting-house, the first in the place, was erected in 1835.” A new one is built on its site, but the old house stands near.

A Baptist church was formed in the western part, June 1834, and consisted of ten members, viz.: Jacob and Mahala Lyons, Thomas and Alex. Burns, Benjamin and Harriet Coon, Silas and Emily Finn, Martin Bunnell, and Benjamin Watrous. From 1839–41 Eld. Joseph Currin was pastor. In 1840 Silas Finn “received liberty to improve his gift” as a preacher in this denomination, and was afterwards licensed. In 1842–43, Rev. John Baldwin was pastor. The highest number of members was thirty-one. The church was disbanded in 1851.¹

A Methodist society was organized about forty years ago, by Rev. V. M. Coryell.

Religious services were held in a school-house for many years, but, in 1853, a neat church edifice was built near the residence of Walter Lyon, Jr. This gentleman, with his brother, the late Wheeler Lyon, Esq., Carlton Kent, and Andrew Giddings, were chiefly instrumental in its erection, though the community, in general, were liberal in their contributions to it.

In 1851 or 1852 there was a Freewill Baptist church erected about half a mile north of the Methodist church. Most of the church members have died or moved away, and the house is now unoccupied except on funerals or extra occasions.

A Bible Society, in connection with Clifford, was formed at an early day; Sabbath schools and temperance societies were also formed and have been continued ever since. They have changed somewhat in form, but not in substance. The Herrick

¹ From E. L. Bailey's Hist. of Abington Association.

Anti-Slavery Society was organized in 1838: Martial Dimmick, President, and Grandison Burritt, and Dav. W. Halsted, Vice-Presidents.

Politically, the township was democratic until 1830.

While Herrick was a part of Gibson, in 1814, the heaviest tax-payers in the former were of the Kent family; after the separation, they were Samuel Benjamin, a tavern keeper, and Walter Lyon, Sr.

Within the last thirty years, nine Welsh families have located in Herrick, though they are considered as belonging to "the settlement," whose members are principally in Clifford and Gibson.

CHAPTER XIII.

HARFORD.

IN November, 1807, the court of Luzerne County granted ("Nisi") the petition of John Tyler and others for a new township from the north part of Nicholson, seven and a half miles wide and six and a half long, to be called Harford; but this grant was not "finally" confirmed until January, 1808. The name was varied from Hartford, at the suggestion of Laban Capron, to make the orthography of the word correspond with its customary pronunciation. A petition had been presented to the court as early as 1796 by the same parties, "inhabitants of a place called Nine Partners," praying to be set off into a new township, and commissioners were appointed to examine whether the same was necessary. Their report, January 17, 1797, was favorable to the petitioners, and the following boundaries were described:—

"Beginning at the dwelling-house of Mr. Amos Sweet, then running on a straight line north till within five miles of the line of Willingborough, then turning a corner to the west, running five miles to a corner, thence running seven miles south to a corner, then east five miles, then turning north and running that course until it meets the aforesaid."

Thus making a township seven miles north and south by five miles east and west, which was to be called Stockfield; but no further record is found respecting it.

In the eleven years that elapsed before the "Nine Partners" secured township privileges, the settlers between them and Willingborough had also petitioned for the township of New Milford; and this occasioned an alteration in the boundaries proposed by the former, when at last their object was virtually

attained. The north line was then established on that of Nicholson, two or three miles south of the one given in the report of the first commissioners, and the center was essentially different, many new families having been added to the settlement. The western boundary of Harford is Martin's Creek, a tributary to the Tunkhannock, like every stream in the township. Its principal feeder is the outlet of the Three Lakes. Van Winkle's Branch and Nine Partners Creek, in the eastern part, have their principal sources in other townships. Upper Bell Brook rises near the center of Harford Township, in the vicinity of Beaver Meadow, memorable as the birthplace of the settlement. (See diagram.) The brook reached the Tunkhannock in Lenox near the early location of Elisha Bell. Spring Brook, which flows into Martin's Creek at Oakley, was visited by a remarkable flood in the summer of 1870.

The lower of the three lakes, and the larger part of the middle one, with Tingley Lake, a much larger sheet, with a pure sand bottom, and two ponds about three miles west of it, are in the northern part of Harford, while Tyler Lake rests on the top of a hill, and is the pet and pride of the village. The beautiful white pond lily is found here, also in the lower and middle lakes.

In the vicinity of Montrose depot, which is in the northeast corner of Harford Township, a rare variety of the mullein (*Verbascum thapsus*—white-flowered) was found by Rev. H. A. Riley, of Montrose. A German work, written in Latin, describes the plant, but it is known to but few American botanists.

The timber is principally beech and maple. In the early years of the settlement, pines four feet in diameter at the ground and sixty feet high beneath the lowest limb, were common, and were of great service in building. Shingles were made from them three feet long, the roofs being *ribbed*, that is, the shingles were held on by poles fastened at the ends of the roofs.

The township is uneven, but the soil is very fertile. A graft put in a plum-tree by Milbourn Oakley, in the spring of 1868, had grown eight feet and six inches before December following.

The following four pages are compiled principally from the Historical Discourse of Rev. A. Miller:—

In the fall and winter of 1789 several young men, afterwards its first settlers, were deliberating together in Attleborough, Massachusetts, on the subject of emigrating from the place of their nativity. Most of them were unmarried and unsettled, but several were married and proprietors of small farms. The difficulty of obtaining near home and from their own resources an adequate supply of land, urged them to seek ampler room in some new region and on cheaper soil. A company of nine concluded to enter upon the adventure in the spring. They were Hosea Tiffany, Caleb Richardson, Ezekiel Titus,

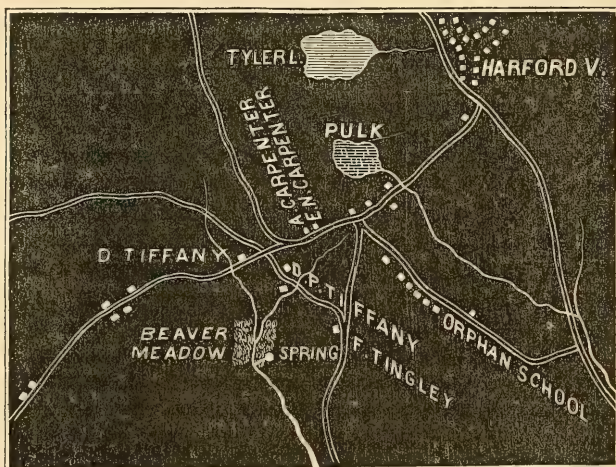
Robert Follet, John Carpenter, Moses Thacher, Daniel Carpenter, Samuel Thacher, and Josiah Carpenter.

Messrs. Tiffany, Titus, and Follet were married. Mr. Tiffany only was over thirty years of age; the others were mostly under twenty-five.

They left Attleborough by two different routes on the 27th and 29th of April, 1790, to meet at West Stockbridge; thence they proceeded *via* Kinderhook to Albany, New York. Information was sought of the Surveyor-General. He suggested Canajoharie, Herkimer, and German Flats as inviting fields, or, if not suited there, Cherry Valley, or some towns soon to be surveyed west of the Unadilla. Reports of the sickness of the otherwise most attractive portion of the Mohawk Valley, induced them to turn aside from the river at Canajoharie and proceed to Cherry Valley. Here they were strongly inclined to settle. But, visiting William Cooper at the outlet of Otsego Lake, they were invited to pass down the Susquehanna in a boat with him in a few days, free of expense, to view lands of which he had the agency, lying about one hundred miles south. To this southerly movement consent was given the more readily in hope of finding the climate warmer, as a settler at Cherry Valley had stated that during five years of his residence there, not a month had passed without frost.

Passing down the river they arrived at the Great Bend, May 16th. Here they found a few families, with whom they remained the next day, which was the Sabbath, and attended worship. On Monday, with Mr. Cooper, surveyor, and others, they proceeded into the wilderness in a southern direction. On Tuesday, the 19th, they reached the Beaver Meadow, and having found

Fig. 15.



SITE OF FIRST BARK CABIN—BEAVER MEADOW.

near it a good spring of water, they erected a bark cabin, the first dwelling constructed or occupied here by the white man. (The first *log* house was afterwards built under the hill, between the house of Captain Asahel Sweet and the village.) The emigrants found snow, on their way from Massachusetts, one and a half feet deep; on their arrival in Pennsylvania, the trees were in full leaf, and the ground covered nearly everywhere with leeks or wild onions.

After some days had been spent in viewing the vicinity, a tract four miles long and one mile wide was purchased for £1198. By a subsequent arrange-

ment with Mr. Drinker, the landholder, their joint obligation for the wholesale purchase was cancelled, and each individual became responsible for his own possessions.

The corner of the tract was near the spring mentioned; thence a line ran northwest one mile, and thence four miles northeast. The centre of a parallelogram with these sides, would fall a short distance southwest of the Congregational church in Harford village. The writings were drawn and signed on a hemlock stump, May 22d, 1790.

At that time, Northern Pennsylvania, and the adjacent parts of New York, presented, with little exception, the solitude of an immense wilderness. Between Harmony and the mouth of Snake Creek, about a dozen families had located but a year or two previous. Another small settlement, styled "the Irish Settlement," had been made at Hopbottom, now Brooklyn; and another fifteen or twenty miles south, at Thornbottom, below the present county line.

From neither of these could our adventurers expect an adequate supply of provisions, if they should continue through the summer.

Wilkes-Barre, and a "French settlement" on the Susquehanna, below Towanda, were the nearest places on which they could depend; and to reach these, a wilderness of forty or fifty miles must be traversed, without beasts of burden and without even a path.

These considerations determined their return to Attleborough to secure their harvests. From the diary of Caleb Richardson, Jr., we learn that the following agreement was made in the spring of 1790, after the return of the purchasers to Massachusetts:—

"To run a centre line lengthwise, which should be 160 rods from the exterior lines; then beginning at the northeast end and going upon the centre line 150 rods, would make two lots of 150 acres each; and to proceed until they should have *sixteen* lots—eight on each side of the centre line—the remainder at the southwest end to remain as public property to the company. Then, to apportion each man's share, it was agreed to make sixteen paper tickets to represent and designate the sixteen lots, and to let each man draw for himself two lots, and upon going back in the fall, and viewing the land, each man to make his choice of the two he had drawn. Then, for adjusting the remaining eight lots, it was agreed that he who, in the candid judgment of the company, had the poorest lot of the eight already chosen, should have his choice out of the remaining eight lots; and to proceed in this way until the whole should be disposed of."

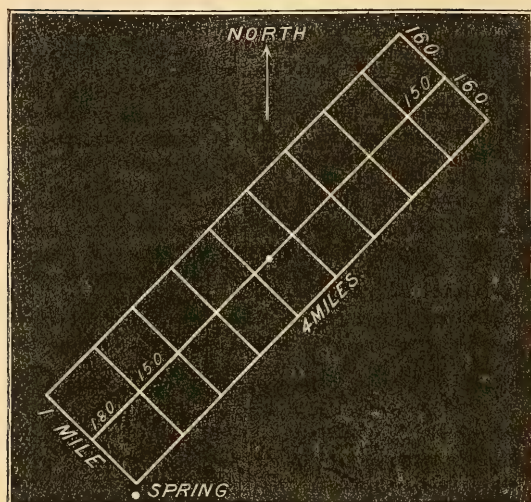
This was eventually done to general satisfaction.

In the fall of the same year, nearly all returned, accompanied by several others. They brought with them an ox-team, tools, clothing, provisions, etc. Having labored awhile they left again, late in the season.

The spring of 1791 found most of them on their land, clearing and cultivating. In the fall they returned to Attleborough. About that time the settlement became extensively known by the name of "Nine Partners," from the fact that the original purchase was made by nine partners, though only eight returned to share the first division.

On the 2d of February, 1792, Hosea Tiffany and wife, with their children, Hosea, Amos, and Nancy; and Robert Follett, wife, and daughter Lucy, left Attleborough with ox-teams and reached the settlement the first week in March. In this company were the first white women who visited this place. A considerable number of persons were on the ground, without families, during the season. Among these was Joseph Stearns, who occupied what was afterwards known as the John Tyler farm. He was from Tolland Co., Conn., and returned there in the fall for his family, and on his way back to Nine Partners, he stopped at Mount Pleasant, and remained there; but his sons Otis and Ira afterwards became residents of Harford and Gibson. Ira Stearns died in Harford December, 1870, in the 80th year of his age.

Fig. 16.



NINE PARTNERS' PURCHASE.

The supply of provisions raised was insufficient for all. Grain or flour was procured even from "the French settlement" or from Wilkes-Barre, on horseback, and sometimes nearly that distance by hand. For several years after this, the nearest mill was in the vicinity of Binghamton. The stump at the door, excavated to form a large mortar, was often the most convenient substitute for the mill, in the preparation of a scanty measure of grain for food. It will not appear at all surprising that the settlers of some of the first years did, at times at least, find themselves uncomfortably straitened in their necessary articles of food, both as respects variety and quantity. Except for the abundance of deer, they would often have suffered severely.

In the spring of 1794, the additions to the settlement were: Laban Capron, wife, and children—Wheton, Nancy, and Hannah; Thomas Sweet, wife, and daughter Charlotte; John Carpenter, wife, and son John; Samuel Thacher, wife, and son Daniel C.; also John Tyler, Jr., and Dr. Comfort Capron.

In the fall of that year, John Tyler and wife, and their children, Job, Joab, Achsah, and Jabez; and Thomas Tiffany, wife, and children—Lorinda, Alfred, Thomas, Pelatiah, Tingley, Dalton, and Lewis. They came from the Delaware to the Susquehanna at the rate of ten miles per day, over a road cut out without being worked. The Tylers were three weeks on the journey.

In the fall of 1795, Amos Sweet, wife, and children, Asahel, Stephen, Oney, Polly, and Nancy; Ezekiel Titus, wife, and children—Leonard, Richardson, Preston, and Sophia—and Ezra Carpenter.

To these were added the same year or years immediately succeeding, Elkanah Tingley, Obadiah Carpenter and sons, Obadiah and Elias; Joseph Blanding, Obadiah Thacher, John Thacher, Moses Thacher, Abel Reed, Thomas Wilmarth, Noah Fuller, Nathaniel Clafin, and others.

All the accessions previous to 1800, it is believed, were directly or indirectly from Attleborough, except Jotham Oakley, who came from Thorn-bottom, and was a native of Dutchess Co., N. Y.

Most of the settlers of Attleborough, Mass., were from Attleborough, Norfolk Co., England.



Joel Tyler

John Tyler, son of Captain John Tyler of Mass., was born in Attleborough in 1746, and belonged to a line of John and Job Tylers of several generations, who were descended from Job Tyler of Andover, England. The sons of John Tyler were John, Job, Joab, and Jabez. The first-mentioned and four sisters (married) were already in Pennsylvania when their parents came in the fall of 1794, with the remaining daughter and sons.

John Tyler was chosen to fill the office of deacon by the Harford church, April, 1803, and after his removal to what is now Ararat, he served also in the same capacity; in each case being the first elected by the church. He was from an early day the agent of Henry Drinker in the disposal of lands on the head-waters of the Tunkhannock and Lackawanna. This, with his position in the church, and with somewhat larger means than most of those around him, gave him influence, while his wife Mercy, by her untiring and unselfish efforts in behalf of the sick, far and near, gained as much, or more, in the sphere allotted her. The volunteer testimony of two of the oldest physicians of the county now living, is sufficient to endorse her skill as a practitioner in the specialties she adopted. (Dr. E. Parker, now of Luzerne County, and Dr. Streeter.)

Dea. Tyler died in Gibson (now Ararat) in 1822, at the age of 77. His son John, at Harford, in 1857, aged 80. Colonel Job Tyler, the same year, in New Milford, aged 77. Dea. Jabez Tyler in Ararat, April, 1864, aged also 77. John W., only son of John Tyler, Jr., died in 1833.

Dea. Joab Tyler (of whom we give a portrait) upon the removal of his father to Ararat in 1810, took his farm in Harford, and his place eventually, in civil and religious affairs. He contributed freely to the erection of church and school-houses, and built miles of turnpike and plank road from his own means. To his public spirit Harford owed much of its growth and prosperity. At a great pecuniary sacrifice, early in the temperance reformation, he bought out his partners in the distillery business, and stopped the sale of its spirituous products. He died and was buried in Amherst, Mass., Jan. 1869, in his 84th year.

All the sons and nearly all the grandsons of Joab Tyler were educated at Amherst College; an institution which for forty years was daily remembered in his prayers. Of his sons, Susquehanna County may well be proud; each filling a post of widely honored usefulness. One died on the coast of Labrador while in pursuit of health.

In his reminiscences of Harford, one of them mentions having once seen fourteen wolves troop across his father's farm, in broad daylight. Deer grazed like cattle quietly in the meadow till the hunter's rifle brought them low.

John Carpenter, Sen., was a son-in-law of John Tyler; one of his grandsons, C. C. Carpenter, is now governor of Iowa.

The ancestor of the Richardsons of this county emigrated from England about the year 1666, and settled in Woburn, Mass. The next generation moved to Attleborough, in the same State, where the family became numerous. Caleb Richardson, a son of Stephen, of Attleborough, and a great-grandson of the first settler of Woburn, was one of the nine partners of Harford. He had been a soldier in the French War of 1765, and traversed the Mohawk before any settlements were made upon it. He went with Gen. Bradstreet in his expedition down the Oswego River, and across Lake Ontario to the taking of Frontenac, at the outlet of the lake. He was a captain in the war of the Revolution, had command and

held the fort where the Battery is now in New York city, while Gen. Washington retreated from New York. After the war he was acting justice of the peace in his native town. He came in the spring of 1790, with eight others, to Susquehanna County, and was the only one of the nine partners who did not return to settle upon the purchase then made. He came, however, eighteen years later (1808) and died in Harford in 1823. His wife was a sister of Hosea Tiffany.

His son Caleb became justice of the peace in Attleborough, upon the expiration of his father's appointment, and was elected deacon of the church to which he then belonged. Deacon Richardson came to Harford in 1806, and was elected deacon of the Cong. Church here, Oct. 1810, and retained his office to the close of his life. He died April 1838, aged seventy-six. The year previous to his death he wrote for his grandson, C. J. Richardson, a history of the Nine Partners' Settlement, to which the present history is largely indebted. He had five sons.

The eldest, Rev. Lyman Richardson, was a distinguished educator, and was, for many years, at the head of the literary institution at Harford, and was connected with it about forty years. Dr. Edward S., Rev. Willard Richardson, of Delaware, and N. Maria, were the children of his first marriage, E. K. Richardson, Principal of the New Milford Graded School, George Lee, and Lyman E. by his second marriage. The eldest and the two youngest sons are deceased.

Lee, the second son of Caleb R. was a deacon and colonel of militia. He died in 1833. He also had five sons: Dr. Wm. L. (of Montrose), Ebenr., Stephen J., Wellington J., and C. Judson Richardson of Chicago.

Caleb Coy, the third son of Caleb, is the only one living.

Preston, the fourth son, was an alumnus of Hamilton College and a member of Auburn Theological Seminary, which he was forced to leave on account of pulmonary hemorrhage. He spent the residue of his life in establishing the school at Harford, where he died in 1836. His only son died before him.

"Dr. Braton Richardson, the youngest son, passing the days of his boyhood in a new country, was, to a great extent, deprived of the literary advantages which have sprung up with the progress and growth of the people; yet his education was not neglected, for around his father's fireside, he and his brothers diligently prosecuted their studies.

"In 1825 he commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Thomas Sweet, of Wayne County. In 1828-29 he was a student in the office of Dr. Charles Marshall, at Newton, Sussex County, N. J. He attended two courses of lectures at the Western District Medical College, and received the degree of M.D. at Albany in 1834. He commenced practice at Carbondale, Pa., in 1829, continuing there one year, when he removed to Brooklyn, Susquehanna County. In September, 1840, he married Lucy C. Miles, of the same place,



Lyman Richardson

and was there for a third of a century engaged in an extensive and successful practice, until prostrated by the brief illness which terminated in his death on the 20th day of March, 1864. He had no children.

"As a physician, Dr. Richardson was in the foremost rank of the profession in Susquehanna County. He despised quackery out of the profession or in it, and was a zealous supporter of medical organization for its suppression. He was *remarkable* for his punctuality in all appointments, and whenever absent or tardy, it was well known there must be a good reason for it. For several years he represented the County Society at the State Society, of which he was one of the Censors, and twice attended the American Medical Association as a delegate." [From Biography in 'Transactions of State Medical Society.']

A blacksmith's shop was erected by Amos Sweet, in 1795; a grist-mill, in 1796, by a Mr. Halstead (who died early), in the southern part of the settlement, where Harding's mills now stand; a saw-mill, by Messrs. Tiffany, Fallet, and Elias Carpenter, in 1800, about one hundred rods southeasterly from the village graveyard; a fulling-mill, in 1810, by Rufus Kingsley, on Martin's Creek; and in the same year a carding-machine, by Elkanah Tingley, where D. K. Oakley now has a mill, two miles below Kingsley's.

The road to Martin's Creek "from near Van Winkle's mills on the Brace Road," was laid out in 1800. "The inhabited part of the Beechwoods" was now open. As early as 1793, a road had been surveyed "from the Stockport road in Nine Partners to the road called Harding's, in Thornbottom;" it was laid out the following year, and was seven miles in length.

[The writer is at a loss to understand the use of the terms "Brace Road" and "Stockport Road," in this vicinity. The latter may simply have led to the road of that name in Harmony; the Brace Road of earliest mention was not supposed to reach so far west.]

In 1798 another, from the State line "near the 19th milestone, *via* Major Trowbridge's, and thence to the road on the waters of Tunkhannock, 108 perches higher up the creek than the 16th mile-tree on Tunkhannock road." The road from Asahel Sweet's to Solomon Millard's, on the Tunkhannock, was ordered in 1800; and the same year, another from Robert Corbett's, on the Salt Lick, *via* Comfort Capron's, to the same point.

In 1798 the township officers of Nicholson (13 miles by 20), included E. Bartlett, S. Thatcher, E. Stephens, Potter, Casey, Tiffany, Millard, and T. Sweet. In 1797 H. Tiffany was poor-master. In 1800 Major Trowbridge was collector for Willingborough and Nine Partners. At the first election of officers after the erection of the township of Harford, 33 votes were polled.

A military organization was required in 1798 or 1799. Obadiah Carpenter was the first officer.

Thomas Tiffany was commissioned justice of the peace in

1799; and Hosea Tiffany two or three years afterwards, the former having resigned. On the erection of Susquehanna County, this commission became void.

Capt. Asahel Sweet,¹ now (1869) ninety-two years of age, is able to recall the following incident, which occurred about 1800:—

He started with his oxen and cart to carry grain to Hallstead's mills, at Thornbottom. At Rynearson's (in Lenox), he reached the end of the road, and was obliged to push into the stream and travel down it five miles, until he reached Marcy's saw-mill, where the water in the race was so deep he had to betake himself again to the shore; but from this point there was a road which he followed two miles to the grist-mill. Returning, he retraced his course up the stream five miles. The weather was warm.

He was married January 1, 1801, and moved in April following to the farm ever since occupied by him. His enterprise procured the first cannon in the county. On one occasion he hid it in the "Pulk" to keep it from being carried off to Wilkes-Barre. The Harford artillery was often in requisition in other places on Independence Day.

Nathan Maxon, from R. I., settled in 1800 on the farm where Almon Tingley lives. His daughter, Mrs. Leonard Titus, now (1869) 81 years of age, has spun 13 or 14 lbs. of wool during the past summer, besides knitting five pairs of socks. In the olden time, when 30 knots of linen thread were a day's work, her week's work was accomplished in five days. This was the ambition of "the girl of that period."

Jacob Blake was here about 1802 or 3. He died in 1849, aged 74.

Rufus Kingsley came in 1809, from Windham, Conn. He had been a drummer in the battle of Bunker Hill. His farm was the one since owned by his son John at Kingsley's station on the Del. L. and W. R. R.

Thos. Wilmarth was the first constable (1808?).

In 1810 there were 477 inhabitants; in 1820, 641, and in 1830, 999.

The first store in Harford village was on the corner, northwest of Dr. Streeter's, kept by a Mr. Griswold, as early as the fall of 1812 or spring of 1813. At that time Joab Tyler lived above Dr. S., on the brow of the hill. Joab T. and Laban Capron were commissioned J. P.'s in 1813. Mr. Capron resigned

¹ He died March 13, 1872, aged nearly ninety-four and a half years. The compiler considers her interview with him (in 1869) one of the greatest privileges of her route through the county, permitting the remembrance of a beautiful picture of old age, confiding in the ministry of a daughter, who for eighteen years occupied the house alone with him.

soon after, and Hosea Tiffany, Jr., was commissioned. He resigned in 1826, and was followed by Samuel E. Kingsbury. Mr. K. died in 1831, and Hosea Tiffany was re-commissioned. Mr. T. died in 1836, and was followed by Payson Kingsbury. Mr. K. resigned in 1839, and John Blanding was commissioned. Since 1840, under the new Constitution, John Blanding and Amherst Carpenter were the first justices elected.

PHYSICIANS.

Dr. Comfort Capron commenced the practice of medicine in Harford (then Tioga township), in 1794, and continued to practice until his death in 1800, at the age of 56 years.

Mrs. Mercy Tyler used to ride on horseback for miles around to visit the sick. "On one occasion a person was very sick, when the snow was so deep Mrs. T. could not go on horseback; but so very important was her attendance considered, and so much confidence prevailed in her skill, that four stalwart men volunteered to bring her on their shoulders. Strapping on their snow-shoes they proceeded to Mrs. Tyler's house, wrapped her up in a blanket, and carried her on their shoulders to the house of her patient."

Dr. Luce came in 1808, but removed after a few years. Dr. Horace Griswold came and left prior to 1812.

Dr. Streeter, a native of Connecticut, came to Harford from Cheshire, N. H., in 1812. He was, at first, in the west part of the town, with Obadiah Carpenter; but after his marriage (to a granddaughter of Dr. Capron) he removed to the house previously occupied by Robert Follet, about a hundred rods above his present location. Here he remained while he built what is now the middle part of his residence. His ride extended into Brooklyn, Lenox, Clifford, Herrick, Gibson, Jackson, Ararat, Thomson, Harmony, New Milford, and Great Bend. At the latter place several physicians had successively settled, but only one or two were there in 1813, and for years after. Dr. Chandler, of Gibson, confined himself to specialties, and Dr. Mason Denison, who had established himself at Brooklyn, left after two or three years. Dr. S. continued to practice over forty years, and now, at the age of 87 (1872), attended by two daughters (the third removed), enjoys his well-earned rest, among the people to whom his virtues and his services have endeared him. His eldest son, Hon. Farris B. Streeter, is President Judge of the XIIIth Judicial District of Pennsylvania, and resides at Towanda; his second son, Hon. Everett Streeter, was at the time of his death, a judge in Nebraska. The youngest, Rienzi, resides in Colorado.

Dr. Clark Dickerman, came to Harford in 1832, and remained in the practice of his profession until his death in 1853. With-

in the last fifteen years, Drs. Edwards, Gamble, and Tiffany, natives of the place, have been its physicians: the last has deceased.

Dr. E. N. Loomis is an eclectic physician.

Harford has furnished other places with physicians from among her sons, of whom we can mention Thomas Sweet, of Carbondale, Daniel Seaver, Braton Richardson, late of Brooklyn township, W. L. Richardson, of Montrose, Edward S. Richardson (deceased), Lorin Very, of Centreville, La., Asahel Tiffany, of Milwaukee, Wis.; William Alexander, of Dundaff; Henry A. Tingley and James D. Leslie, of Susquehanna Depot.

SCHOOLS, ETC.

The common school from 1794; a church organized in 1800, and still efficient; a library of historical works, and others of a substantial character, begun in 1807, and read with care and interest; a select school established in 1817, merged into an Academy in 1830, and still later into a University;—may all be reckoned as having had powerful influences bearing upon the earlier and best interests of the people of Harford, and by no means confined to them. We have but to inscribe the name of RICHARDSON to represent the honored instructors of many youths in Harford, of whom not a few have since been written on the roll of fame,—and better, that of usefulness.

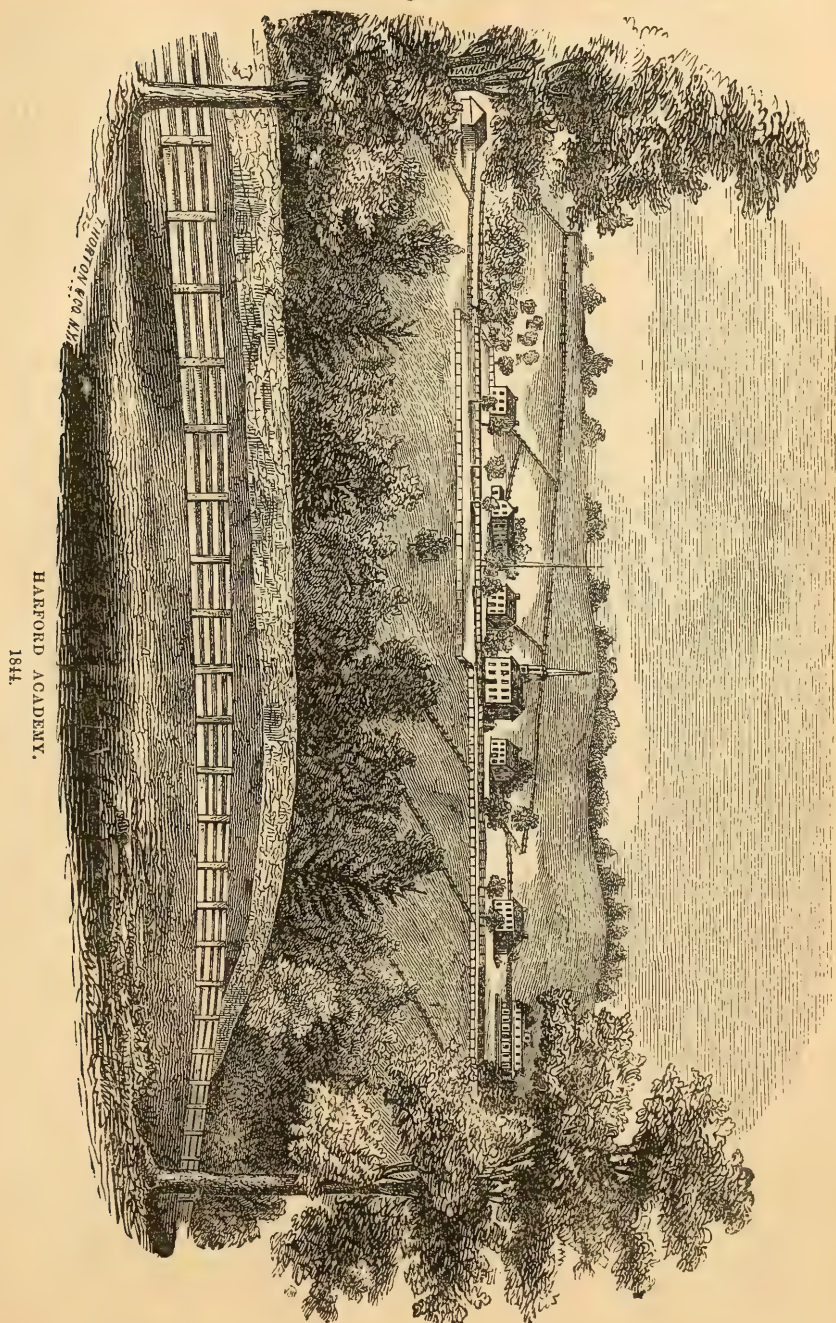
We append on the next page an illustration of the Harford Academy. The buildings, with some alterations made by C. W. Deans, Esq., are now used as a Soldiers' Orphan School.

The early settlers were characterized by industry, frugality, morality, and mutual kind feeling. Hardly distinguished in interest or employment, or temporal circumstances, they found at each other's rude cabins a homely but cordial entertainment. Remote from public roads, they were mostly shut in from the rest of the world, and for a time knew little of its agitations. For nearly ten years they were also left undisturbed by taxes or military duties; and entirely overlooked by the officers of justice in the immense district of which this section formed a part.

The power of moral training, and of public opinion, were their officers and exactors.

"During the first four years, not a professor of religion settled in Nine Partners. Still the Sabbath found them resting from their labors. Nor was the day devoted to hunting or public amusements. Three of them, who during the second season occupied one cabin, were several times annoyed by the visits of some one, perhaps from a neighboring settlement, of laxer views respecting the sanctity of the Sabbath. On a repetition of the visit, it was proposed to read aloud from what they styled 'a good and interesting book,' for mutual edification. The expedient was successful, and was the beginning of a practice continued through the season. This may be accounted the first

Fig. 17.



approach to the form of any part of social worship attempted in the settlement.

"Among the settlers of 1794-5, were several professors of religion. In the fall of 1794 they were visited by Rev. Mr. Buck, then preaching at Windsor, N. Y., and at Great Bend. The visit was soon repeated. His sermons, the first heard in the place, were preached in a bark-covered cabin, which stood in the field a short distance northwesterly from the Congregational church. A 'reading meeting' was then by vote determined upon; and on motion of Ezekiel Titus, John Tyler was appointed to conduct it. These meetings were sometimes at Amos Sweet's, but oftener at Deacon (John) Tyler's—the red house now standing some rods west of the residence of H. M. Jones, but then on the site of the latter. They were held regularly every Sabbath; the Scriptures and sermons were read, and, with singing and prayer, constituted the humble public worship of the day."

A recent writer says:—

"These 'reading meetings' (continued one-fourth of a century) were transferred in 1806 to a one-story meeting-house (no spire); afterwards to a church with steeple and a pulpit half as high as the steeple, with a great east window behind the pulpit; and, not a deacon but a reverend, was seen there 'standing in the sun.'"

A missionary named Smith preached in Harford a few times; afterwards a Mr. Bolton, an Irishman, was employed to labor for a time. A Mr. Thacher paid them a transient visit or two, and organized a society, but it never went into operation. The missionary visits of Rev. Messrs. Asa Hillier, David Porter, and others, are remembered with interest.

A Congregational church was organized June 15, 1800, by Rev. Jedediah Chapman, a missionary from New Jersey, sent by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church. It consisted of seven members, viz.: Obadiah Carpenter and his wife, Ama, John Tyler and his wife, Mercy, John Thacher, Mercy Carpenter, wife of O. Carpenter, Jr., and Miss Mary Thacher; all having letters from the Congregational church in Attleborough, of which Rev. Peter Thacher (father of Mrs. Mercy Tyler) was pastor.

The first revival occurred in the winter of 1802-3, under the labors of Rev. Seth Williston, in the service of the Missionary Society of Connecticut.

Joseph Blanding was the first convert. He came to the settlement in 1794, and remained here until his death, in 1848, in the eighty-second year of his age.

From 1803-10 the church had an occasional sermon from missionaries passing through this section. In 1806, a small meeting house—twenty-two feet by thirty—had been erected on land given by Hosea Tiffany and son; it was afterwards removed across the road, and now forms a part of the residence of Miss Lucina Farrar.

In the winter of 1808-9, occurred the second revival, which was one of great power. Meetings were held almost daily—

some of them in what is now Brooklyn and Gibson—then considered within the bounds of the same church. Distance, darkness, and bad roads were no obstruction to the gathering of religious assemblies anywhere. The services were conducted principally by Rev. Mr. Griswold, of West Hartwick, N. Y., and Rev. Joel T. Benedict, of Franklin, N. Y. The latter remained only four or five weeks; the former, for awhile afterwards. In July following, forty-three persons united with the church, Mr. Benedict returning to officiate on the occasion.

Rev. Ebenezer Kingsbury, who had been pastor of a church in Vermont, visited Harford, and received a call to settle, February 21, 1810. He was installed in August following, and was then nearly fifty years of age. His pastoral labors here continued seventeen years, and were crowned with success; several seasons of special religious interest occurring. In these he was sometimes assisted by Rev. Messrs. York and E. Conger; and the then "new measure" of visiting from house to house by the elders was practiced.

He was a native of Coventry, Conn. He graduated at Yale College in 1783, and studied theology with Dr. Backus, of Somers, Conn. His labors, under the auspices of the Missionary Society of Connecticut, began in this county in 1808, and were continued, half the time, during his pastorship, and for several years afterwards, with feeble churches.

He travelled over a large part of the counties of Susquehanna, Bradford, Luzerne, and Wayne, on horseback, by marked trees and bridle-paths, preaching in log-cabins, barns, and school-houses (of which there were a very few at that time), and assisted at the formation of nearly all the churches in this region. He was everywhere esteemed. He had four sons who lived to manhood, of whom E. Kingsbury, Jr., was a lawyer, and afterwards, speaker of the State Senate. Payson K. was several years a deacon in the Harford church. He died in 1843. Wil-liston K.'s funeral sermon was the first sermon preached in the present house of worship, in 1822—long before it was finished and dedicated.

Samuel Ely K. became justice of the peace in Harford.

Rev. E. Kingsbury's death occurred at Harford, March, 1842, in the eightieth year of his age. His widow died in 1859, at the age of eighty-eight. Her house was ever open to "the sons and daughters of want."

The successor of Rev. E. Kingsbury in the Harford pulpit was the Rev. Adam Miller, who began his labors there in 1828; was installed April 28, 1830, by the Susquehanna Presbytery, having been ordained in the interval. In 1872, he is still at his post, having had the longest pastorate of any one in the county.

Seven hundred and ten persons have been connected with the church since its organization; and it is not too much to attribute to its influence very much of the prosperity, intelligence, and high standard of morals that have ever characterized the township. Sabbath-school instruction was commenced about 1816.

The people of Harford were forward in the temperance reformation, in the cause of anti-slavery, and in various objects of Christian enterprise—foreign and domestic missions, education for the ministry, and distribution of Bibles and tracts.

From the Congregational church the following persons have been furnished for the gospel ministry:—

Revs. Lyman, Willard, and Preston Richardson; Washington, Moses, and Tyler Thacher; William S. and Wellington H. Tyler.

In 1821, Miss Hannah Thacher, daughter of Obadiah Thacher, joined the Choctaw Mission, and while there became the wife of Dr. W. W. Pride. The health of the latter failed, and they returned to Susquehanna County. [See Gibson and Springville.]

In 1823, Miss Philena Thacher, a sister of Mrs. Pride, joined the same mission, married the Rev. B. B. Hotchkiss, and remained in the nation until her death.

Respecting the Harford Baptist church, the record says:—

"June 6, 1806, brother Thomas Harding, sister Hannah Harding, brother Abijah Sturdevant, and sister Polly Sturdevant thought proper to meet every Lord's day for to worship God, not having the privilege of meeting with the church at Exeter, to which we belonged; Elder Davis Dimock being the pastor." In August, 1809, the *four* had increased to *fifteen*; in 1810, they first celebrated the Lord's Supper; in 1812, when recognized as a church, they numbered twenty members. The place of worship was at the old mill-site, in the southeast part of the town, generally called "Harding's," and at school and private houses throughout the neighborhood. The formation of neighboring churches often weakened the membership, and, in 1841, the church was reported to the association as having disbanded.

In 1853, however, a revival was enjoyed, the church was reorganized with twelve members, and the same day (22d Dec.), a neat house of worship was dedicated, near the Harding mills. The church has never enjoyed much pastoral labor. Some of the Baptists in Harford township are members of the West Lenox and New Milford churches.

The Universalist denomination has always been numerous in Harford, and formerly a minister was sustained among them one-half of the time; but they never erected a house of worship, and at present most of the denomination are connected with the societies of Brooklyn and Gibson.

Within a few years the Methodists have erected a neat church at Harford village.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

The marriage of Orlen Capron to Ama Carpenter, October, 1798, was the first in the settlement.

The first birth was that of Robert Follet's son Lewis (who died young), September, 1794; the first death, that of an infant daughter of the same, and whose burial was the first in the village graveyard, December, 1796. The first adult interred was Dr. Capron, June, 1800.

Henry Drinker, of Philadelphia, gave a deed, December 6, 1803, for one acre as a burial-ground, for the use of families within three miles of it. Hosea Tiffany and his son Amos, by their deed, September, 1824, annexed seventy-five perches on the northeast side of the lot, and the whole is now enclosed with stone-wall. Mr. Drinker also gave fifty acres in the northern part of the town for "a ministerial lot;" in 1830 or 1831 this land was sold, and the avails were applied to the erection of the Congregational parsonage, adjoining the late residence of Joab Tyler, Esq., one-fourth of an acre being donated by him for that purpose.

Eight of the "nine partners" were living in 1830, forty years after their first visit to the beechwoods of Pennsylvania. In 1844 only two remained, and in 1872 all are gone.

Robert Follet died June, 1809, aged forty-one years; Caleb Richardson in 1823; Hosea Tiffany, April, 1833; Samuel Thacher, October, 1833; Daniel Carpenter, in Massachusetts, 1835; John Carpenter, 1838; Josiah Carpenter, in Massachusetts; Moses Thacher, in Massachusetts; Ezekiel Titus, 1846. (?)

Others of the early settlers died as follows: Obadiah Carpenter in 1810, aged sixty-eight; Asa Very in 1829, aged fifty-three; Nathaniel Jeffries in 1833, aged seventy-one; Thomas Tiffany in 1835, aged seventy-eight; Abel Rice in 1837, aged seventy-seven; William Coonrod in 1837, aged eighty-four; Obadiah Thacher in 1838, aged eighty; Elkanah Tingley in 1838, aged seventy-eight; Aaron Greenwood in 1845, aged sixty-four; Rufus Kingsley in 1846, aged eighty-four, and his wife, aged seventy-nine; Samuel Guile in 1847, aged sixty-five; Abel Read in 1857, aged eighty-nine; Amos Tiffany in 1857, aged seventy-two; Eliab Farrar in 1858, aged eighty-five; Austin Jones in 1861, aged seventy-three; Asaph Fuller in 1868, aged ninety-two.

In 1868 there were in Harford fifty-four persons aged over seventy; fourteen over eighty;¹ and one (A. Sweet) over ninety.

¹ Mrs. Hannah Guile, one of this number, died January 3, 1871, aged eighty-seven. Of her eleven children, seven are living; of forty-eight grandchildren, thirty are living; of fifty great-grandchildren, thirty-seven are living.

John Gilbert died February, 1869, aged over eighty. He had lived on the same farm in Harford for fifty-five years.

Of the very few men of our county who lived over a century, one was John Adams, a native of Massachusetts, and a Revolutionary soldier, who came to Harford in 1837. He was then ninety-two, but it was his wish to spend his last days with his son James, who came here several years previous.

Often, after his one hundredth year, he made (and made *well*) a pair of shoes in a day. Four letters written by him when he was one hundred and one years old, and published before his death in a Massachusetts paper, have been preserved; they evince a wonderful retention of mental faculties, cultivated and improved after his maturity, his early advantages being but few. He died in 1849, aged one hundred and four years, one month, and four days.

Several cases of death by drowning have occurred in the different lakes of the township; and one woman, Esther More, was burned to death in May, 1829, when Elias Carpenter's house was burned.

The first inhabitants found a source of revenue in making sugar, but more by raising neat cattle; a yoke of good oxen would sell at \$80 or \$100 during the first twenty years after the settlement. The demand was occasioned by the lumbering business, then carried on extensively upon the Susquehanna and Delaware Rivers.

Major Laban Capron was the first post-master.

Hosea Tiffany, Esq., had been a Revolutionary soldier, and was afterwards a pensioner. His first log-cabin stood on the ground now occupied by the Congregational church; his garden is now the graveyard. His daughter Nancy was married New-Year's, 1800, to Captain Asahel Sweet. She was once greatly frightened by wolves which had been attracted by the smell of the blood of a sheep her husband had killed and brought into the cabin. The night following, when he was in the sugar-camp, a mile or more from home, Mrs. S., who was with her children in the house, heard wild animals tramping around, and she was fearful they would reach the roof, a low sloping one, and effect an entrance through the hole left for a chimney. She did not lose her presence of mind, but took straw from her bed, and during the night threw it upon the fire by handfuls, thus keeping them at bay until dawn, when to her inexpressible relief she heard them leave.

An amusing story is told of Hosea Tiffany as justice of the peace. He had married a couple, and, soon after, being dissatisfied with each other, they came to him to inquire if he would *un*-marry them. "Oh, yes!" said he, and invited them to step outside a moment. Taking his ax and putting his foot on a log,

he said, "Let the one who wants to be unmarried *first*, lay the head *there!*" In 1800 he brought in a barrel of cider, the first in town, for which he paid \$8; its sale netted him six cents profit. The apple-tree at first did not thrive well, but in later years there was and is a good share of orcharding.

In 1810 the first cider-mill was erected on land of H. Tiffany, and the first cider was sold for \$3 or \$4 per barrel.

In 1827 Thos. Tiffany's orchard yielded 1400 bushels of apples.

In 1830 Elkanah Tingley made one hundred barrels of cider.

The year 1833 was a remarkably fruitful one.

CHAPTER XIV.

GIBSON.

A MOVEMENT was made, November, 1812, to divide the township of Clifford, then thirteen miles on the east line of the county, by nine miles east and west; and the first court of Susquehanna County was petitioned to erect the northern half of it into a new township to be called Gibson. This name was designed to commemorate that of the late Hon. John B. Gibson, at that time president judge of the district of which this county forms a part.

It appears that, contrary to the original intention, the west line of Gibson was extended about a mile beyond that of Clifford, making the township ten miles east and west. This took from Harford twenty-two taxables, and about a mile square from the territory of Lenox. Against the latter encroachment a remonstrance was soon presented, but the court declined making a review of the township lines on account of the low state of the treasury, though granting permission for a renewal of the petition at some later period. But no after change in the western boundary appears to have been made. Thus very desirable territory was gained, including "Gibson Hollow," "Kentuck," and a portion of South Gibson.

But the township was then too large; and, November, 1814, the court was petitioned to divide it by a line drawn north and south four and a half miles from the western boundary, the new township to be called Bern. Viewers were appointed, but nothing further appears relative to the matter.

One year later another petition was presented, praying to have Gibson divided through the centre from north to south, the "westernmost" part to retain the name of Gibson, and the new town to be called Lawrence.

But, though there were geographical reasons to justify these requests—East Mountain and the tall peaks of Elk Mountain being nearly in the centre of the township—ten years appear to have elapsed before a division was made, when Herrick was added to the list of Susquehanna townships. Gibson was then left in nearly its present shape, containing about thirty-six square miles, which have been slightly reduced by small additions to Herrick and Ararat.

East Mountain extends along half of the eastern boundary of Gibson; and, north of it, the valley of the Tunkhannock is confronted by other heights which skirt those belonging to the "Mount Ararat" of old land-surveys in the adjoining township.

The Tunkhannock Creek, rising in Jackson and Thompson, traverses Gibson diagonally through Gelatt Hollow in the northeast to the southwest corner, where it enters Lenox. With its ten or twelve tributaries, some of which are the outlets of pretty ponds, it forms the whole drainage of the township. Stearns' Lake, in the northern part, covers several acres of elevated ground.

There is no central place of business for the whole township; consequently the stores, manufactures, and mechanics are principally located at five small villages, viz., Burrows' Hollow, Kennedy Hill, South Gibson, Smiley, and Gelatt Hollow. Burrows' Hollow is located on Butler Creek and the old Newburg turnpike, and near the northwest corner of the town; Smiley, four miles distant on the same road, and the main branch of the Tunkhannock; Kennedy Hill, at the summit of the ridge between the two creeks; South Gibson, four miles down the creek from Smiley, and near the southwest corner of the town; Gelatt Hollow, one and a half miles up the creek from Smiley, and near the northeast corner of the township.

The vicinity of Kennedy Hill was the first settled.

It is probable that Joseph Potter, from Ballston Spa, N. Y., was the first settler within the present limits of Gibson. In 1792 or '93 he lived on the farm now occupied by his grandson, Oliver Potter.

After bringing in his family he returned to Ballston Spa for a short time on business, leaving his family with only a hired man as protector. It was winter, and the cabin was without a door. Mrs. P. did not see a woman's face for the first six months.

Capt. Potter, as he was usually called, afterwards moved a mile further west, to the farm now occupied by his grandsons, Joshua M. and Stephen W. Potter, near the small lake known by his name. He died here after a residence of many years.

He early kept a public house. His sons were: Noah, John, and Parley.

John Belcher, in 1794, came to the farm now owned by Geo. Maxey. It extends west from the Union Hill church, and was formerly owned by George H. Wells, whose name is marked at this place on the county map. Mr. B. lived here until he sold it to Abijah Wells, and removed to Lymanville, in Springville township. His sons were: John, Ira, Hiram, Michael, and Alanson.

Joshua Jay, a brother-in-law of John Belcher, Sen., must have come about the same time. He built the first grist-mill where Clafin's mill now stands; also, the old "Skyrin house," near the mill, and still standing, which was afterwards the first location of Dr. Chandler. He had also a blacksmith shop, but he did not remain here many years before removing to "the lake country," N. Y.

A Mr. Brown is said to have lived here about 1796.

Wright Chamberlin bought a farm of Joshua Jay, May, 1796, on the eastern slope of what was called Putt's Hill, about a mile east of Burrows' Hollow, and here he spent the remainder of his life. He had left Litchfield, Ct., one year previous, and "set out with Denman Coe to visit the State of Pennsylvania." From his diary, now preserved by Silas Chamberlin, we quote the result:—

"I bought a possession at Hopbottom, and on the 11th of June (1795), I set out with Coe's family to carry them into Pennsylvania, and I worked at Hopbottom that year from the 26th day of June until the 8th of September following, when I set out for Litchfield, in order to move my family to Hopbottom. But, as I passed Nine Partners, Mr. John Tyler persuaded me to purchase a possession there. Jan. 21st, A. D. 1796, I bid farewell to the State of Connecticut, and on Feb. 26th, 1796, I arrived with my family in Nine Partners."

In August following he removed his family to his new purchase on Putt's Hill, now in Gibson.

After the death of his first wife in 1797, he married Sally Holdridge, daughter of the first pioneer of Herrick. He had three wives and twenty-four children. (Some assert that there were twenty-eight in all, but the record closes with the birth of his son Jackson, in 1833.) His first wife's family consisted of seven boys and one girl. Moses C., who died in Gibson, Aug. 1870, at the age of 83, was one of those boys, and was eight years old when his father left Connecticut. James was another, and was the father of Silas Chamberlin, now of New Milford, but who was born in Gibson, and lived here 67 years. There are but three persons surviving who have lived in the township as long as he, viz., the widow of Ezekiel Barnes (a daughter of John Belcher, Sr.), and Corbet Pickering, of South Gibson.

Wright Chamberlin, Jr., another brother, lived for many years on the river between Susquehanna Depot and Great Bend. He died recently. Wright Chamberlin, Sr., died in 1842, aged 84. He had been a Revolutionary soldier. For many years he was a deacon in the Presbyterian church on Union Hill.

Prior to 1800, he was a licensed "taverner" in his log house on the high ground, a short distance west of Lewis Evans' present house, which he built two or three rods from the house raised by Mr. C., Oct. 1814. At a later date in his diary, he says: "I moved my new house down to the well." The first house stood on the old road, which, in 1807-10, was superseded by the Newburg turnpike.

Our informant says:—

"There was a good deal of travel over it, and Chamberlin's log tavern was not a little frequented. One night the ground floor (as probably the upper floor), was entirely covered with lodgers, except a narrow passage from the hearth to the outer door, for the accommodation of 'mine host,' who sat up through the night to keep a fire for his weary, slumbering guests. Most of these were loyalists, or rather, as we should say, 'royalists,' from New Jersey, who were going to Canada after the war, to claim the British promise of a farm to the emigrating tories. But there was also a considerable emigration from New England and elsewhere to the 'Holland Purchase' in Western New York.

"This previous route of travel varied considerably, in this section, from the present track of the old Newburg road, from half a mile to a mile south of the former, though in general it had the same well-defined route. Here, instead of going through the gap, as now, at Smiley's, it crossed the ridge of the Tunkhannock Mountain (marked 'East Mt.' on the old county map), south of W. Rezean's present place, and came down near D. Reece's, to the Tunkhannock Creek, a considerable distance below Smiley's; and, on the west side, up by Thomas Evans' and H. D. Bennett's to the pond of J. Bennett 2d; thence up the west feeder of the pond, and over the hill a little west of Lewis Evans', or past the old log tavern of Wright Chamberlin, to Burrows' Hollow and Clafin's grist-mill; thence to E. Green's, on the Harford line; thence to Judge Tingley's old place, and on to the Great Bend. Just how much it varied from the old road, from this point, is not stated, but there was probably less variation than across the section just mentioned."

Jotham Pickering, and his brother Phineas, from Massachusetts originally, came to what is now Gibson, in 1798, from a farm now owned by Mr. Wellman in New Milford, to which they had come in 1793. Corbet, son of Jotham Pickering, stated in an article published in the 'Montrose Republican,' that his father was "the second inhabitant of Gibson," but as he also stated positively, that he was five years on the place where he began in 1793, his memory failed him in regard to the settlement of Gibson, as proved by the diary of Deacon Chamberlin. The farm of J. P. was less than half a mile east of Kennedy Hill, to which he came with the purpose of uniting his family of children with those of Capt. Potter, to establish a school. The advantages they were able to command must have been

limited, as it is asserted the first teacher in Gibson did not know how to write. Mr. C. Pickering says:—

“ At that time Gibson was indeed a wilderness, and without a figure might have been styled a *howling* wilderness, because upon every hand, at all times of day or night, could be heard the melancholy howl of the wolf, and very often the piercing screech of the panther. Truly those were times that tried men's nerves, if not their souls. At this time, moreover, there were no mills nearer than Wilkes-Barre, and it was some years before we had the advantage of any other process of grinding than that of a hard wood stump, dug out in the form of a mortar, while the pestle, with which we pounded our corn, somewhat resembled a modern handspike. But we could not afford so tedious a process in manufacturing our rye; so we put on the big kettle, and boiled a quantity of what is, in these days of improvement, called whiskey seeds; and, really, we found rye and milk much more palatable than rye and kerosene. The first mill that I can remember was ten miles distant, nearly every step of the way in the woods; and the boy that had sufficient nerve and muscle, had the exalted privilege of mounting a bag of corn, which had first been mounted on horseback, and taking up his tedious pilgrimage to the grist-mill.

“ At one time, when my uncle Phineas was traveling from New Milford to Gibson, the only sign of civilization was here and there a marked tree. Losing his way, he wandered, of course, every way but the right. Still he was not much concerned, until he was suddenly aroused to real consciousness by the near howling of wolves. There being no other alternative, he climbed a tree, and had but just got notions of safety in his head, when the wolves gave him a greeting such as he never forgot while he lived. All that night he was favored with music that probably never charmed the savage breast. He carried the inevitable old rifle, but the charge got wet, so they had things their own way, except the privilege of picking a few human bones, till daylight, when the cowardly villains withdrew.”

The sons of Jotham Pickering were Henry, John, Preserved, Corbet, and Potter. Corbet came to his present place, in 1833, from Gelatt Hollow.

Phineas settled in the vicinity of Gelatt Hollow. His sons were Augustus, Joseph, and John B.

John Collar made one of the earliest clearings on the Tunkhannock, within the bounds of Gibson. His farm is now occupied by T. J. Manzer. Unlike most of the settlers of the township, he came in from below or near the mouth of the creek. He was a great trapper, and caught, in one season, nine bears in what has since been called Bear Swamp, near South Gibson. A stream of the same name here joins the Tunkhannock.

Between 1798 and 1800, Samuel Carey, the first settler of South Gibson, moved in; but died soon after, and was buried at the foot of the hill which bears his name. It is on the southern line of Gibson, where the northeast corner of Lenox joins Clifford.

In 1800, Samuel McIntosh and Benjamin Woodruff made a beginning in what is called the old Samuel Resseguie farm.

In 1802, or 1803, Joseph Washburn, afterwards first justice

of the peace, settled on Gibson Hill, and put up a blacksmith shop, a great accommodation then to settlers for miles around. Mrs. N. E. Kennedy and Mrs. Thaddeus Whitney,¹ daughters of Joseph Washburn, reside near the old homestead; and Ira, his only son, on a part of it.

Waller and Ebenezer Washburn were brothers of Esq. Washburn; the sons of the first were Samuel, Lyman, Dexter, and Julius.

In 1804, Capt. Eliab Farrar came. He married a daughter of Noah Tiffany, and resided some years near his wife's brother, Arumah Tiffany, in "Kentuck." He removed to Harford about 1818, and died there in 1858, aged 86. His widow survives him, is about ninety years old, and has been for seventy years a resident of the county. "She says, with tears in her eyes and her countenance quivering with emotion," writes a correspondent, "that she is thankful that she never went to bed hungry, nor put her children to bed when they wanted food;" but she has known those who have been at times in that condition.

In 1804 or '5, Dr. Robert Chandler, first P. M. at Gibson Hollow, occupied the Skeyrin House. It bears this name from the fact that it belonged with land which the wife of John Skeyrin received from her father, Henry Drinker, of Philadelphia. Mr. Skeyrin, years later, spent some time here putting up a saw-mill and looking after the property, but was not a resident. Dr. Chandler exchanged this place with Mr. Drinker for wild land, and resided until his death, in 1831, about half a mile east on the turnpike.

The Drinker lands covered most of the township, except in the vicinity of the Tunkhannock Creek, which had been covered in 1784 by warrants of Mr. Poyntell as far north as Jackson Center.

Stephen Harding, Sen., built the first saw-mill, near the grist-mill of Joshua Jay, and bought out the latter, probably as early as 1806. Mr. Harding was a millwright, and built the second grist-mill at this point, and afterwards sold to N. Claffin and Cyrus Cheevers. The latter has since lived in Bridgewater. S. Harding removed in 1815.

There were several additions to the settlement about this time, but a number of the first comers had left or were dead. The heads of families residing in 1807, within the present town, (which was then in Clifford), were:—

Capt. Joseph Potter and his son John; John Belcher, Wm. Belcher, Joshua Jay, Wright Chamberlin, James Chamberlin, Phineas Pickering, John Collar, Sen. and Jr., Joseph and Eben-

¹ Since deceased.

ezer Washburn, Robert Chandler, Stephen Harding, Sen., David and Amos Taylor, Joseph Cole, Olney Sweet, Nathan Maxon (left in 1818 for Lenox), James Bennett, John Green, George Galloway, Capt. Elias Bell, Ezra Follett, Henry Wells, and Capt. Eliab Farrar—twenty-six in all.

Reuben Brundage was a taxable of Clifford the same year, and in 1808 lived on Kennedy Hill. Several taxed in Clifford in 1807 were taxed in Harford in 1811, and in Gibson in 1814.

David Taylor built the hotel still standing on the Newburg turnpike east of the creek at Smiley. This, and the Skyrin House, and Capt. Potter's tavern, were the only frame houses then in Gibson. Amos, son of David Taylor, came here a little before his father, and located on the west side of the Tunkhannock, a mile below the hotel, where his son William now resides, and where he was born. Amos Taylor also owned a farm on East Mountain, which was for a time occupied by William.

Joseph Cole lived on Kennedy Hill, just west of Jos. Washburn. Wm. Holmes afterwards had this farm.

Olney Sweet, a brother of Capt. Asahel S., of Harford, was for many years where A. Sweet has since kept a hotel, above Gibson (Burrows') Hollow. His wife was a daughter of Dr. Chandler. O. S., died in 1842, aged 65.

James Bennett was near the outlet of the pond that bears his name. He came here from Rockland Co., N. Y. His wife, in 1807, drove a bear and two cubs from her premises with only the help of a dog. She was the first Methodist in Gibson. Their sons were, Charles, and Loren G., of South Gibson, Luke and John.

Levi, brother of James Bennett, lived half a mile west of Smiley. His sons were, William, George, John, and James.

The outlet of Bennett's Pond is called Bell Creek, from the fact of Capt. Bell's early settlement here. Abijah Wells bought this place and Geo. Galloway's next, north of it, also John Belcher's, and Sterling Bell's (marked T. Evans on the map). He first lived on the last named, gave it afterwards to his son Coe, and removed to the Belcher farm; built a new dwelling, etc., there, and remained on the farm until he gave it to his son Geo. H.; he then came to the Elias Bell farm, adding to it a strip of the Galloway farm, and building a house, barns, etc., as there were previously no buildings of value on the Bell farm; and here he lived and died, leaving this place to his widow, and the son of his eldest son, who has long since deceased.

Ezra Follett began where Captain Oliver Payne afterwards lived. George Galloway was a Dutchman and a very worthy citizen. He was the maternal grandfather of the present governor of Virginia, Gilbert C. Walker. The latter was not born

in Gibson, as has been stated in the public prints, but in Cuba, Alleghany County, New York, during his parents' temporary residence there, after leaving Susquehanna County. His mother afterwards returned to Gibson, and the present Gov. Walker was "put out" for some years with Mr. T., a farmer in the vicinity of "Kentuck." One of his neighbors tells this story:—

"Mr. T. was a very rigid disciplinarian; thought children should be always on their propriety—miniature men and women. One day he was gone from home and young Walker was left alone, for there were no children of his years, and the time seemed heavy and long. To 'kill' it he ventured upon an expedient which he knew would be a high offence in the eyes of Mr. T. He took the only horse, a staid old family beast, and went out for a ride. Suspecting Mr. T. would be back before his return, he left the horse in the woods back of the pasture, and came across the lot to the house, and meeting Mr. T., he told him that the horse was out of the lot; he had seen him over in the woods. Whereupon Mr. T. went over and got him back into the lot, and he and 'the Gov.' reconnoitered the fence around the pasture to find where the horse got out; the old gentleman never once suspecting the ruse till it was too late to call the culprit to an account."

But this incident occurred many years later than the period under consideration.

It is stated that an old Kentucky hunter came through what is now the western part of the township, at an early day; and being struck with its beauty, said it was "equal to old Kentuck." From this circumstance it took the name which seems so odd to a stranger. No one can fail to admire the scenery, so varied and pleasing; and the rich lands which make the section not unworthy of its frequent designation—"the garden of the county." Its elevation affords views of great loveliness, both near and distant. All the prominent points of neighboring townships are revealed with a distinctness peculiar to a clear atmosphere. The slopes furnish unsurpassed grazing, as the butter of the township well exemplifies. The farm-houses bear little resemblance to the low, rough structures of early times, and with the grounds about them, evince at once the taste and wealth of the present inhabitants. The editor of the 'Susquehanna Journal,' after taking a trip in 1870, through Gibson and Jackson, speaks of them thus:—

"They are devoted mainly to dairying. We judge from what we learned during our trip, that Gibson sold fully \$100,000 worth of butter last year, and that Jackson did about the same. The farmers are thrifty and rapidly accumulating wealth. We saw many fine herds of cattle, and not one unstabled or poorly cared for."

It abounds in productive orchards and gardens.

Arunah Tiffany lived about 1809, on the highest point of "Kentuck" Hill, and remained there, with the exception of two years spent in Brooklyn, until his death, in 1863, at the age of seventy-eight years. His son, George B., now occupies the old homestead.

From a point west of the house one can see, by the aid of a field-glass, the Presbyterian churches of Ararat and Harford; the Soldier's Orphan School buildings in Harford, and the Presbyterian church of Gibson. Before its removal, the old Methodist church on Kennedy Hill was included in the view.

The settlement called "Kentuck" was once quite extensively known as "Five Partners," as distinguished from the "Nine Partners," both being within the former limits of Harford.

In the fall of 1809, William Abel, James Chandler, Ebenezer Bailey, Hazard Powers, and Daniel Brewster, came from Connecticut, and bought land here in partnership; returned for the winter, and, with the exception of the last named, came back to Pennsylvania in the spring of 1810. (Mr. Brewster died in Connecticut soon after the others came on. This lot was afterwards Elisha Williams's). Their families joined them the following fall.

William Abel and James Chandler went to Philadelphia in 1812, to arrange business with Mr. Poyntell, from whom the purchase of from 6 to 700 acres had been made, and the whole tract was deeded to Mr. Chandler, to be deeded to the five by lot. Three men came from Harford to appraise the land. The average price was \$3.00 per acre, at which Mr. Abel received his; Mr. Bailey's, \$3.25; Mr. Brewster's, \$3.50; Mr. Chandler's, \$2.75; and Mr. Powers's, \$2.50. Samuel Powers, son of the last named, is on his father's farm. Joseph, the eldest, settled in Jackson; Ichabod, another son, was there a short time. Hazard Powers, Jr., became a resident of Lenox.

William Abel lived to the age of ninety-two, and died in 1869. His sons were, William A., Gurdon L., Sylvester, Alonzo, Nelson, Henry, and Seth. The last two occupy their father's farm; one or two of the others are near.

James Chandler and Dr. Chandler were not relatives, but each had a son Charles, one of whom—the son of James—became our representative in the State Legislature.

Before the close of 1809, David Carpenter came from Massachusetts and settled on "the Kentuck road" (where R. Tiffany's name appears on old maps). He was a cousin of two of the nine partners of the same family name, and his wife was a sister of another—Robert Follett. They had four children: Chester, now dead; Lucy, now Mrs. John Brundage; Mrs. Sabinas Walker, and Timothy, a justice of the peace, residing in South Gibson. David C. was a resident of Gibson over fifty years. He died there May 4, 1861.

Between the years 1809-1812, George Gelatt, Sen., and Collins, his son, settled on the Tunkhannock Creek, in the northeast corner of Gibson, now well known as Gelatt Hollow, or simply "Gelatt." George Gelatt, Sen., lived to be an hundred

and one years old, and his wife ninety-seven. Both died in Gibson. Their sons were, Collins, Jonathan, George, Richard, and Robert. Richard Gelatt, second, is a son of George Gelatt, Jr.

Benjamin Tingley resided half a mile from Sweet's, on the Jackson road; his brother Daniel a mile further north, and in Jackson.

In 1811, Merritt Hine settled in Gibson, and removed to Wayne County in 1844.

Nathan Guild, George Williams (from Herrick, where he settled in 1808), Ezekiel and Amos Barnes—who married daughters of John Belcher; Nathaniel Claflin, Nathan Daniels, and Capt. Oliver Payne, were all here as early as 1812. Payne's Lake takes its name from the location of the last named.

Nathan Claflin located near the mills known by his name. His sons were Watson, and Hermon, deceased; Naaman F., now owning the farm, and John H., who owns the mills. He died in 1837, much esteemed.

Many will remember Rev. Joshua Baker as an old and respected inhabitant. He died recently.

Nehemiah Barnes, father of E. and A. Barnes, was a Revolutionary soldier. He died in Gibson in 1839, aged seventy-eight.

John Denny came to the township from Dutchess County, New York, February, 1814; Moses Chamberlin, 1st, a brother of Wright Chamberlin, Sr., March, 1814; Amos Ingalls, a brother-in-law of M. Chamberlin, and father of Rev. R. Ingalls, September, 1815; and, within the first three years after 1812, Samuel Resseguie, William Holmes, Edward Weymar, John Brundage, Sterling Bell, William Mitchell, Silas Steenback, Noah Tiffany, John Safford, and Otis Stearns.

In the mean time Gibson had been separated from Clifford, but then included twice its present territory. Waller Washburn was appointed constable by the court, November, 1813, but John Potter was the first elected; John Tyler (then residing in that part of the original Gibson which is now Ararat), and James Chandler, supervisors; Elias Bell, and N. Maxon, postmasters. Joseph Potter, Joseph Washburn, and D. Taylor, were then the largest resident tax-payers within the present limits of the town.

Moses Chamberlin, 1st, was a native of Litchfield County, Connecticut. When a soldier of the Revolutionary army in 1776, he kept a diary which was published in one of the Montrose papers in 1837, and which is worthy of re-publication. After the war he went to Vermont, married and remained there until he came to this county, with the exception of a year when he lived in Constable, Franklin County, New York. This was

during the war of 1812-15, and as that township was next to the Canada line, he was driven away. On coming here, he located where his son, S. S. Chamberlin, now lives. Another son, the Rev. William C., became a missionary to the Creek Indians in Georgia. The father had been a justice of the peace, and was usually called Esquire Chamberlin. Each of the senior brothers, Moses and Wright, had a son Moses.

Deacon Otis Stearns was a son of Joseph, who came to Harford in 1792, but located in Mount Pleasant a year or two later. While there he had to come nine miles to Captain Potter's to get his axes sharpened. When Deacon Stearns settled in Gibson, he bought 240 acres of Joseph Potter, and remained on that place three years keeping tavern, when he removed to the farm where he spent the rest of his life, near the lake that bears his name. Here he built a grist-mill in 1819. He died in 1858. His widow, a daughter of Captain Potter, died in Gibson eleven years later, in her eighty-second year. "She was born in Saratoga County, New York; came with her father to Susquehanna County in 1792; was fifty years a member of the Baptist church, and lived and died a Christian."

John Denny and John Safford bought of George Gelatt, Jr., lands and improvements near Smiley. Two years afterwards, the former was an innkeeper, and Mr. Safford had two mills at Smiley, which were burned in 1822.

In 1816, a Mr. Mory (or Mowry) kept a store six months at Claflin's mills—the first merchant of the township.

In 1817, James and William Noble kept one the same length of time in Burrows' Hollow. They afterwards established a store in Brooklyn.

About this time or a little prior to it, Fitch Resseguie, a son of Samuel, and then only a lad of eight or ten years, was lost in the Elkwoods, and lay out all night, or rather perched in a tree-top, while the wolves howled around until the break of day.

About 1816, David Taylor sold his tavern to Asahel Norton. It was afterwards kept in succession by N. Webber, Charles Forbes, Lewis Baker, Aaron Green, Joel Steenbeck, Samuel Holmes, etc. The place was well known to travelers on the Newburg turnpike in its palmiest days.

Willard Gillett was here in 1817 and possibly earlier. He was a brother-in-law of William Abel. His sons were, Roswell (who died years ago, leaving a family), Jacob L., and Justin W. The latter two live in Gibson.

John Gillett, an older brother of Willard's, came much later than he. This family have left the county, with the exception of a daughter in Dundaff.

In 1817, Charles Case was located on the farm until recently

occupied by his son, William T. Case, Esq. Another son, Horace, lives in Jackson, and a third, Treadwell, in Wayne County.

Silas Torrey was near Kentuck; Eben Witter (afterwards town clerk), and Enos Whitney, Sen., near Gelatt Hollow. The latter died October, 1846, aged eighty-four. His sons were Thaddeus, Belius, Enos, and Everett.

David Tarbox was a saddler at Gibson Hollow in 1818, and succeeded Dr. Chandler as postmaster in 1825.

George Conrad, son of William Conrad, or Coonrod, who came to Brooklyn in 1787, settled in South Gibson in 1818.

Elections for Gibson and Jackson—both then in their original extent—were held at the house of James Bennett.

Long prior to this the sons of the pioneers began to figure on the tax-lists. Corbet Pickering, now of South Gibson, came of age in 1818, and lived at Gelatt Hollow, where he then married a daughter of Dr. Denny. This now aged couple recently celebrated their golden wedding, and from Mr. P.'s published account of it is copied a part of his statements respecting his family:—

“We have raised up a large family of children, eleven of whom are now living, and four have gone to the better land. Our grandchildren now number fifty-two, our great-grandchildren nine, and peace seems to reign on every hand. Ours was no ordinary pleasure on the 17th September, 1868, when, sitting at the table spread with the good things of life, in company with most of our children, and many of our neighbors, numbering in all above one hundred.”

Parley Potter kept tavern with his father at the old homestead in 1819.

John Seymour bought of Joseph Washburn and William Holmes, and kept store on the corner now occupied by N. E. Kennedy. He left the place six years later. Ebenezer Blanchard was at Gelatt Hollow.

April, 1819, Urbane Burrows came to the locality which has long been known by his name, and engaged in the mercantile business, which he successfully prosecuted for thirty-six years. From 1856 to 1861 he was associate judge of the Susquehanna County courts. His latest enterprise, noticed on a later page, is a fitting exponent of his character.

Artemas Woodward settled in Gibson the same year with the above, and his son George came the following year.

In 1822 Tyler (Joab), Seymour & Co. had a tin and sheet iron factory on Gibson Hill. A year or two later, William A. Boyd came to the place, and after the removal of John Seymour was of the firm of Tyler, Boyd & Co., merchants.

As early as 1824 Goodrich Elton carried on the business of

wool-carding and cloth-dressing at Smiley, and remained here until his death in 1865.

In 1825 the name of Sabinas Walker, the father of Gov. G. C. Walker, first appeared on the tax-list of Gibson. His brothers, Enos, Keith, Arnold, and Marshall were also here.

At this time the oil-stone quarry in the eastern part of the township, was owned by Kenneth Fitch, a resident of New York, who employed men to work it, kept a small stock of goods at Forbes's hotel, and came here occasionally to look at the business, which was usually left to the management of his agent, Henry K. Niven, from Newburg, N. Y. The latter married Jane (afterwards Mrs. Lusk), daughter of M. Du Bois, Esq., died early, and is buried at Great Bend, where their daughter, Mrs. Dr. Patrick, now resides. The quarry was worked but a year or two, the stone proving too soft.

In 1826 Roswell Barnes bought a saw-mill of Robert Gelatt, and located in the extreme northeast corner of Gibson.

John Collar sold the old place on the Tunkhannock Creek to Peter Rynearson. Horace Thayer erected a house and kept a store on Gibson Hill.

About 1827 Tyler, Boyd & Co. sold their store to P. K. Williams, and a year or two later, a house and lot to Dr. Chester Tyler (see Physicians).

In 1830 Charles Chandler 2d was appointed justice of the peace in Gibson.

In 1831 Mr. Thayer leased his store to Burrows & Kennedy; F. A. Burrows (see Springville), brother of Judge Burrows; and N. E. Kennedy, who had been clerk for the latter three years.

In 1835 N. E. Kennedy bought out P. K. Williams, and has continued the mercantile business here to the present time. The hill which takes its name from his location is often pronounced *Canada Hill*; it is the one previously called Gibson Hill.

Mr. Williams became a Presbyterian minister, and was settled for a time in Onondaga County, N. Y. He afterwards returned to this county and entered into business, and is now a merchant at Nicholson.

John Smiley came to Gibson in 1835, and the next year he and Gaylord Curtis (now of Susquehanna Depot) had a store, where the former continued to do business thirty-five years.

J. and J. T. Peck had a provision store at this point, now called Smiley.

Silas Steenbeck was the owner of a grist-mill here for many years.

In 1836 William H. Pope came to Gelatt Hollow and began the woolen factory still in operation there, though a branch of the business is carried on at Smiley in the building once occupied by Goodrich Elton.

Lawrence Manzer bought of P. Rynearson the old Collar farm.

William Purdy kept a hotel on the hill, the house and lands of Horace Thayer being transferred to him. Aaron Green kept the one at Smiley.

In 1837 the Lenox and Harmony turnpike from Smiley to Lanesboro, was constructed.

In 1739 a division of the county was agitated, and it was proposed to take out Gibson with Clifford and adjoining townships, to form a new county with parts of Luzerne, and to make Dundaff the county seat. Happily for Susquehanna this and similar projects have fallen through.

About this time the Welsh began to extend their settlement into Gibson from the base and vicinity of Elk Hill, where they had been located several years. John Owen was one of the earliest in Gibson, and his sons are here now. He came from North Wales. There are about twenty-four families of the Welsh settlement now in Gibson, and they are among its most respected and well-to-do citizens. "It is their characteristic and habitual endeavor to establish the sanctuary and its ordinances wherever they establish themselves." The cultivation of their natural love of music has afforded them and the community rich treats of enjoyment.

Early in 1867 George H. Wells, late representative from Susquehanna County, prepared a table of the aged of Gibson, the youngest of whom was 70 and the oldest (William Abel) was 91. There were in all thirty-eight persons—nineteen men and nineteen women. The average age of the men was $78\frac{1}{2}$ and of the women $75\frac{1}{2}$ years. The list included seven married couples, all married over half a century, the average time being 56 years. Seven of the men and three of the women were over 80; twenty-four in the list were over 75. Half of the whole number were born in Connecticut and six were born in Wales. The table did not contain a native-born Pennsylvanian. All the men were farmers, and all the women but two were then, or had been, farmers' wives. Only one of the whole list had never married. The one who had resided longest in the township (74 years), as well as longest in the county, was Mrs. Lois Stearns, widow of Deacon Otis Stearns. Her death has already been mentioned; many others on the same list are now gone. "Four aged ladies were buried in the course of one week in Gibson, in January, 1869, the sum of their ages being 312 years." The table gave convincing proof of the healthfulness of Gibson.

Mr. Wells adds:—

"Persons from a less salubrious climate will be surprised to find here men and women near seventy years of age who appear to be in the prime of life,

and some of the men in the above list over eighty are no easy competitors in the harvest and hay field.

"The most of these were pioneers of a portion of Susquehanna County; and as our forefathers fought to establish the principles of liberty and free government, so these have braved the hardships of frontier life, and fought the rugged wilderness to give strength and material prosperity to our beloved country. They have also made happy homes for their descendants."

POST-OFFICES, Etc.

Dr. Robert Chandler was probably the first postmaster in Gibson.

In the spring of 1832 "Kentuckyville" post-office was established, Stephen P. Chandler, P.M. It has long been discontinued.

There are now three post-offices in the township: Gibson, Smiley, and South Gibson.

The Gibson post-office, with a daily mail, is at Burrows' Hollow; the morning mails from New York and Philadelphia are now due at 5 o'clock P. M. This is the largest of the villages; its has thirty-three dwellings, two churches, two stores, a tannery, two carriage factories, two blacksmith shops, two harness shops, a shoe shop, a tin and sheet-iron shop, a cabinet and joiner shop, a grist-mill, and two saw-mills. Population, 155.

A newspaper correspondent in 1869, speaks of South Gibson as

"An unpretending little town, situated on the Tunkhannock, about midway between Susquehanna Depot and Nicholson. It contains about thirty dwelling houses, a hotel, a grist-mill, three stores, a tailor shop, a blacksmith shop, a doctor's office, a justice's office, a school-house, and last, but not least, a new Methodist church.

"This village is nearly surrounded by hills, which shut out the wind, making it very warm; besides, the days are somewhat shortened, as the sun does not rise here till late and retires behind the hills at an early hour, but on these hill-sides the first green grass is seen in early spring, and here the first berries ripen in summer.

"This town has enjoyed a large trade for the past five years, people coming from many miles around to do their trading. The surrounding country is settled by well-to-do farmers, who possess beautiful farms and fine buildings. Dairying is carried on to a considerable extent, every farm having some cows, and many from twenty to twenty-five. This place sustains a Good Templars' Lodge, which represents almost every family in the vicinity. Not one-tenth as much liquor is now sold in the place as before the Lodge was organized."

In 1871 a uniformed militia company was organized, James M. Craft commanding officer.

There are seven stores in the township; one at Smiley, and Kennedy's, in addition to those mentioned.

SCHOOLS.

In 1807 there was but one school-house in Gibson, and that was roofed with bark. It stood on Union Hill, about forty rods

from James Bennett's house. Miss Molly Post taught the school, and Charles Beunnett, now of South Gibson, was one of her pupils. Lyman Richardson, since a faithful pastor; and the honored head of the University at Harford, taught a school in Capt. Potter's house during the winter of 1808 and 1809. A Mr. Follett is mentioned as a teacher prior to 1810, and, it is possible, prior to Miss Post.

District schools were gradually increased; they now number eleven, with an average attendance of nearly two hundred.

In 1828, the Rev. Roswell Ingalls had a select school for six months in the old Presbyterian church on Union Hill, and in 1829, in the school-house, near Mr. Abel's.

The Gibson Academy, still standing on Kennedy Hill, was built mainly through the influence of Joseph Washburn, Esq., President of the Board of Trustees. It was ready for occupancy in 1841, but no academic school was held in it for any time worthy of notice. Select schools, at different periods, were taught here, first by Miss R. S. Ingalls, and Mr. Maxon, from Harford, then by J. J. Frazier, and afterwards, a Mr. Blatchley, from Wayne County, taught one year. The next select schools were held in Gibson Hollow.

In 1859 A. Larrabee, since county superintendent, taught here for a time. The Misses Stevens, from Vermont, succeeded him for three years; M. L. Hawley and assistants three years; a Miss Bush, and possibly other teachers since.

RELIGIOUS.

Gideon Lewis, a Baptist Evangelist, appointed about 1806, was the first resident minister of Gibson. His name appears on the tax-list of Clifford (which included Gibson), in 1807, marked "clergyman;" but there was then no religious organization within the present limits of Gibson, the first being effected by Elijah King (a traveling preacher on Broome Circuit, which extended across the Susquehanna River, south of Great Bend), who formed a Methodist class in Gibson in 1812 or 1813. Of this George Williams was leader, and Margaret Bennett, Sarah Willis (afterwards wife of John Belcher), Susanna Fuller, and J. Washburn, the other members. [See 'Early Methodism,' by Dr. Geo. Peck.] In 1810 a class had been formed at "Kent's Settlement," afterwards Gibson, and now Herrick.

Christopher Frye is said to have preached the first Methodist sermon in Gibson. He was on the Wyoming Circuit as early as 1806, and the circuit then included Hopbottom (or Brooklyn).

Dr. Geo. Peck states that "the first Methodist sermon in Gibson was preached at the house of a Mr. Brundage, a Baptist, on what is now called the Thomas place." This is evidently a

misprint, and should be *the Holmes place*, now Kennedy's, near where the Methodist church stood before its removal to South Gibson. Dr. Peck himself traveled the circuit through Gibson in 1819. He says of Frye: "He was a large man, had a great voice, and a fiery soul. Great revivals followed him."

Of Nathaniel Lewis, of Harmony (now Oakland), a local preacher, who early held meetings in this section: "He was rough as a mountain-crag, but deeply pious. He could read his Bible and fathom the human heart, particularly its developments among backwoodsmen. Obtaining information of a place where there had been no religious worship, some distance from his home, he visited the place. He went from house to house inviting the people to come out to meeting. He took for his text: '*Ye uncircumcised in heart and ear, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost.*' Many were pricked in the heart; a great revival followed; and *seventy* souls, who were happily converted to God, dated their conviction from that sermon."

William Chamberlin, whose parents resided at Gibson, was licensed to preach September 17, 1817, and was ordained by the Susquehanna Presbytery at Harford, Nov. 12, 1817, "to preach the gospel to the aborigines." He joined the Cherokee Mission in company with Rev. Asa Hoyt, also a member of the Susquehanna Presbytery.

A Congregational society was organized in Gibson, Nov. 21, 1818, by Revs. E. Kinsbury, M. M. York, and O. Hill. It was composed of ten members: Wright Chamberlin and wife, William Holmes and wife, John Seymour, Abigail Case (wife of Charles Case), Eunice Whitney (afterwards Mrs. Moses Chamberlin, Jr.), Deborah Burton, Ann Holmes, and Betsey Holmes.

W. Chamberlin and W. Holmes were chosen deacons, and John Seymour clerk. The first communion was administered Nov. 23, 1818, by Rev. M. M. York. Sept. 26, 1820, the Susquehanna County Domestic Missionary Society was formed, and this church became auxiliary to it.

There were no additions to the church-membership until Nov. 18, 1821, when Arunah Tiffany, wife, and mother, and Polly Follett joined the church. About this time Rev. E. Conger, employed by the Susquehanna County Domestic Missionary Society, labored in Gibson, and more than usual religious interest existed. Near the close of the year, Rev. John Beach came among them; and March, 1822, the people agreed to hire him for one year. Of forty-three who were pledged to his support, thirty-six were living a quarter of a century later. The details of the subscription contrast too well with the present ability and liberality of the town to be omitted: Total amount of cash subscriptions, \$35.25; of good wheat, equivalent to \$16; rye and corn, \$86; oats, \$100; butter, \$114; something undeciphera-

ble, \$150; sugar, \$81; flax, \$102; wool (besides three sheep), \$47. (Besides 105 lbs. of pork, \$5 in boots and shoes, and \$5 in merchandise).

The agreement was to pay this "to the Trustees of the *Presbyterian* Society of Gibson." It is certain the church sent delegates to the Presbytery about this time.

Rev. Mr. Beach brought his family to Kentuck, in May, 1822, and was with the church two years and a half. [The statements that follow, down to 1863, appear in the church records written by Deacon Tiffany]:—

"In the spring of 1823 A. Tiffany gave the use of an acre, which was planted with corn, and cultivated by the people of Kentuck, for the use of the County Missionary Society. In 1824 one acre of land on Union Hill was purchased from James Bennett for \$20, by the church and society, and they then contracted with Elisha Williams to build a meeting house (36 x 26 feet, and 12 feet between joists, with arched beams), to be finished outside and the floor laid (the timber being found for him) for \$100. Nearly half this sum was subscribed by the people of Kentuck. In 1825 the *missionary acre* was sold for \$20.

"From 1828 to 1830, the Rev. Jas. Russell was half the time in Gibson, and the other half in Mt. Pleasant. Rev. Isaac Todd, sent out by the O. S. Educational Society of Philadelphia, labored through the years 1830 and 1831. His salary was \$250 per year, and he was boarded. A. Tiffany, M. Chamberlin, Esq., and Deacon William Holmes were responsible for four months each. The Educational Society gave \$100 each year.

"The weekly prayer-meeting was kept up, and 'the church was never more blessed with a spirit of fervent prayer before nor since. There was not a communion season in the two years but that more or less were added to the church.'

"Mr. Todd was instrumental in getting the church finished inside and out, and he obtained \$60 in New Jersey to secure a charter of incorporation, which was finally had in 1834. Early in January, 1833, the slips were sold for \$108. In October, 1833, the form of government was changed to Presbyterian, and J. Chamberlin, Arunah Tiffany, J. B. Buck, and P. K. Williams were chosen elders. The Rev. Samuel T. Babbitt preached through this year. [The first two were chosen deacons, May, 1854.] January 1, 1834, Alonzo Abel and E. Whitney, Jr., were ordained deacons. The latter died, May, 1852. The first case of discipline was reported in 1835. In the following year the Rev. John Sherer was employed, and, by vote, the slips were to be free.

"During the next ten years Revs. M. Thatcher, Lyman Richardson, and Eli Hyde occupied the pulpit. July, 1846, Rev. Geo. N. Todd came as stated supply for this church, in connection with the one at Ararat; and November, 1847, he became the first installed pastor. About this time there was a discussion as to the propriety of moving the church edifice over to the turnpike, near the Methodist church then standing on Gibson's Hill. It was decided in the negative. A Sabbath-school was organized with ten or fifteen scholars; Deacon Abel, Superintendent. In June, 1849, one person joined the church on profession of faith—"the first in ten or twelve years." [This would indicate in spiritual matters a somnolence equal to that exhibited in person by the church members of that day, when 'perhaps not a member but got lost in sleep during the exercises of the Supper!'] But, possibly, this tendency to 'sleep in meeting' was not stronger in Gibson than elsewhere in farming communities, when those who were actively employed in the open air during most of the waking hours of six days, found it difficult to

do otherwise than observe the command to *rest* on the seventh. At this time the church numbered but 33. Three years later there were three more members, making 109 from the organization of the church to March, 1852.

But as little life as the church, by its own record, had evinced, there were yet in it a few things worthy of imitation. The members prayed for each other by daily rotation. When one of the female members, who had been bed-ridden for years, appeared in church for the first time after her recovery, the fact was noted on the books of the church—showing that each member was of value to all the others.]

Rev. Mr. Todd's pastoral relation to the people of Gibson and Ararat was dissolved December, 1853. Early in 1855, Rev. O. W. Norton took his place, and occupied it three years.

In November and December, 1856, some unusual religious interest in the community is noted. The Rev. Mr. Allen came in August, 1858, and still continues as pastor of the Union Hill Church.

Silas Chamberlin was chosen deacon in 1858.

The subject of a new church edifice was agitated in the spring of 1863, but one was not begun until 1868; it was finished and dedicated July 7th, 1869.

The first Methodist church was erected in 1837, on Kennedy Hill. In 1868, it was sold to be taken down and removed to South Gibson, where it was re-erected; the same frame, outside covering of the walls, wainscoting, slips, doors, etc.—all used, with the addition of a lecture-room, built new; and the whole neatly finished.

The Methodist church at Gibson Hollow was begun in 1868, and completed and dedicated June 3d, 1869. Just prior to this, a newspaper correspondent described it correctly thus:—

“The taste, personal supervision, and pains-taking liberality of Judge Burrows, have been strikingly manifest in the projection and completion of this edifice. Messrs. Perry, Scott, and Shepardson have won for themselves an enviable reputation by the mechanical skill they have evinced in the execution of their work. It will bear the closest scrutiny, and speaks for itself. The walls and ceiling of the building are appropriately frescoed. The windows are of stained glass. The pulpit is well proportioned, and constructed of black walnut, with tastefully turned columns and well proportioned panels and mouldings. The slip ends are made of red oak with black walnut trimmings. The wainscoting and breastwork are also of the same materials. The building has been carpeted throughout, and is heated by a furnace in the basement, on new and improved principles. The steeple, or tower, is unique, and is furnished with a silvery-toned bell from the foundry of Jones & Co., Troy, N. Y. One of Mason & Hamlin's organs is ordered, and it is expected will be on hand prior to dedication. There is a lecture-room in the rear of the church, which is used for Sabbath-school and other meetings. The folding doors in the recess behind the pulpit, can be thrown back, and thus increased accommodation can be secured on extraordinary occasions. Take it all in all, as to workmanship, chaste execution, and general convenience, we hesitate not to pronounce it a model country church.”

The cost, including the bell and furnishing, was about \$11,500. There is probably no better finished church edifice in the county.

The Baptists of Gibson united with those of Jackson, and were organized as a church by Elder D. Dimock in 1825. They then belonged to the Abington Association, but were dismissed to that of Bridgewater in 1828. (See History of Abington Association, by E. L. Bailey.)

Their meetings were formerly held in a school-house (now burned), above Pope's mills; when they built a church it was at Jackson Corners. Among their regular pastors were Elder G. W. Leonard in 1831; J. B. Worden, 1844-51; N. Callender, 1852; R. G. Lamb, 1853.

The Universalist church was built about 1839 at Gibson Hollow, but there was no regular church organization until thirty years later.

There are now five churches—Methodist and Universalist at Burrows' Hollow; Presbyterian on Union Hill; Methodist at South Gibson, and Old School Baptist on the creek above Gelatt Hollow.

In 1829, a violent opposition was made to secret organizations by many in the township, and at the same time earnest effort was begun in the temperance cause.

PHYSICIANS.

For several years after the settlement, Gibson was dependent upon other towns for medical assistance, or at least upon such as were outside of its present limits. Dr. Chandler, in 1804, and Dr. Denny, ten years later, were confined to specialties, and it does not appear that a regular "M. D." came to the township until 1824, when Dr. Wm. W. Tyler advertised his arrival. Apparently his stay was short; but, in 1825, Dr. Chester Tyler (not related to the former) established himself on Kennedy Hill, where he remained in practice until his death in 1846. He was an elder in the Presbyterian church. He had six children; his only son, James, resides in Montrose.

In January, 1830, Dr. Wm. W. Pride, a returned missionary from the Choctaws, was established at Burrows' Hollow. He remained there about four years, and then removed to Springville. Luther Price took his house and lot, which are now owned and occupied by Wm. T. Case, Esq.

About the same time (1834) Drs. J. W. and G. N. Brundage (brothers) came from Orange County, N. Y. Both are now dead, as is also Dr. D. F. Brundage, son of the former. Dr. G. N. Brundage died in 1838. The house occupied by his brother for many years is now owned by D. Pritchard.

The water cure buildings, erected by Dr. D. F. Brundage, were recently burned.

Dr. E. L. Brundage,¹ a brother of the first two Drs. Brundage, located in Franklin about the same time they came to Gibson; and now he and his son, Dr. Norman B., are at South Gibson. At the latter place Dr. Charles Drinker was established in successful practice until within a week or two of his decease, October, 1869, at the house of his father, in Montrose, Pa.

CHAPTER XV.

RUSH.

RUSH is the fifth of those townships of old Luzerne of which the area was comprised wholly, or in part, of territory afterwards set off to Susquehanna County.

1801.—At January sessions of the court of Luzerne County, a petition was presented for the erection of a new township to be called Rush, its boundaries to extend

“From the fortieth to the twenty-seventh milestone on the State line—the northwest corner of old Lawsville—thence south eighteen miles, thence west eighteen miles to a corner in the line north of old Wyalusing Township, south of Wysox, to a point due east from Standing Stone, thence north five miles to a corner, thence east five miles, thence to the place of beginning.”

The report of viewers appointed at that time was made in the following November. Though it was accepted, it is evident, from the bounds of the township as always afterwards recognized, that an error occurred in their statement of the limits of the northern line—“To begin at the forty-first milestone and extend thirteen miles to the twenty-eighth milestone”—thus failing to reach Lawsville by one mile. [The milestones were numbered from the Delaware River westward.] Also, upon the erection of Susquehanna County, its west line extended south from the fortieth milestone, and from all that can now be ascertained, the west line of Rush was the county line for thirteen miles; five miles square remained in Bradford (then Ontario) County. *Practically*, the township extended east to the line of old Nicholson; and south, at least, to the line of Susquehanna County, as afterwards run. A portion of Braintrim (now Auburn) may be excepted; but the taxables of Rush,² for the year 1801, included residents of Springville and Brook-

¹ Since deceased.

² Rush, or Rindaw—both names being given to the election district—although “Rindaw,” by the Yankees, was confined to a very small town, as marked on a map of Connecticut surveys, 1799.

lyn, or those who, without change of locality, were afterwards included in the latter townships. Rush was then the ninth of ten districts for justices in Luzerne; and, apparently, also for elections; the tenth included Nicholson, Lawsville, and Wilkesborough. Isaac Hancock was justice for the former district, and Asa Eddy, Thomas Tiffany, and John Marcy were justices for the latter. Nicholson, as well as Rush, extended beyond the line of our county, and Justices Hancock and Marcy were never its residents.

Upon the erection of Bridgewater, November, 1806, Rush received definite limits; being left eight miles on the State line, by eighteen miles north and south.

The township was named in honor of Judge Jacob Rush, president of the courts of Common Pleas in the circuit consisting of the counties of Berks, Northampton, Luzerne, and Northumberland. For seven years previous he had been chief justice of the Supreme Court, but, on the re-appointment of Judge McKean to that office, he accepted the position of circuit judge August, 1791.

In 1812, twenty-four of the residents of Rush signed a petition to have a new township formed from it, eight miles square, adjoining the State line, to be called Bennington. January, 1813, the first court of Susquehanna County was petitioned to divide Rush into three parts, viz., Choconut, Middletown, and Rush—the latter to be left eight miles east and west, by six miles north and south. The petition was granted “nisi,” November, 1813, and “finally,” January, 1814.

The area of Rush was again reduced, in 1846, by the erection of Jessup; and more recently by the addition to the latter township of about eighty rods on the Wyalusing, north to the line of Forest Lake. Thus the present north line of Rush extends but five and one-half miles; the south line eight miles; and the whole area about thirty-five square miles. It once included, in addition, two hundred and thirty-five square miles; but this, now absorbed by nine other townships, will require no further attention here.

Rush, as well as Jessup, is traversed through the centre from east to west, by the Wyalusing—one of the few streams of the county retaining its sweet-sounding Indian name. But this is only in part retained. The Iroquois word as given by Zeisberger, is *Machwihilusing*, meaning the “beautiful hunting grounds,” a definition not unlike that given on a previous page—“*Plenty of meat.*” The Lenape or Delaware word—having only an additional *l*—*Machwihillusing* is said to mean “at the dwelling place of the hoary veteran.” The former definition best agrees with what is known of the vicinity when first occupied by a civilized race.

Prior to 1759, there was an Indian village at the mouth of the Wyalusing (about fourteen miles southwest from Rush), which was called by Papoonhank, the chief, *Machhachloosing*, a name subsequently variously written *Michallousen*, *Munmuchlooscon*, *Mockocklooking*, *Quihaloosing*, *Wighalooscon*, *Wighalusui*, and by the Moravian missionaries during the time of the mission, *Machwihilusing*, *M'chwilusing*, and *Wialusing*.

In 1766, they laid out a town which was named *Freiendenshuetten*, or Huts of Peace. In 1767-68, they erected here a large church, with a cupola and a bell—the first bell that ever sounded in this section.

In 1772, the mission was removed to Ohio.

We learn from Col. Hubley's and Thomas Grant's journals of Sullivan's expedition into the country of the Six Nations, that in August of 1779, when a division of his army encamped at Wyalusing, there "was not the appearance of a house to be seen, the old Moravian town having been destroyed partly by the savages, and partly by the whites, in the present war." Hubley furthermore states, that the plantation here was formerly called the "*Old Man's Farm*," a name which would appear to corroborate Heckewelder's interpretation of *Wyalusing*.

The north and middle branches of the Wyalusing join the main stream, or east branch, in Rush; Deer Lick Creek, and the outlet of Elk Lake, with some smaller streams, flow into it from the south. Bixby's Pond, on the line between Middletown and Rush, is the only sheet of water larger than a millpond.

Mineral Springs (see Mineral Resources), of some prospective value, exist on the Deer Lick, but, singularly enough, salt is not one of their ingredients, though from the earliest times deer sought the locality, a salt spring being near.

Except when the roads follow the streams, they are very hilly, but the traveler who gains the hilltops is amply repaid by the views he obtains. This is particularly true of the eminence just west of the Mineral Spring, from which one looks up the valley of Wyalusing to Cemetery Hill at Montrose; but the stream itself is hidden by the overlapping hills that border its winding course. Devine Ridge, in the eastern part of the township, was so named from a family who first occupied it more than fifty years ago.

Soon after the close of the Revolutionary struggle, some of the Wyoming settlers pushed northward on the Susquehanna and along its tributaries, Wyalusing being one of them; other settlers came from the New England States, *via* the Susquehanna, to Great Bend, and over the hills; while still others kept

to the river in canoes, and so reached the Wyalusing, and gathered along its shores.

SETTLEMENT.

As early as 1794, Isaac Brownson and family (eight in all) were at the forks or junction of the North Branch (the place long occupied by the late H. J. Champion).

Of his sons, Elisha, settled in Windham, Bradford County, and John one mile west of his father on the road coming in from the north, a few rods east of Sherwood's hotel.

Daniel Ross came in soon after I. Brownson, and located just below him. He was the first postmaster.

In 1795, Dan Metcalf was on the farm next below, which has since been known as the old Hancock place. At this time (we are told by Mrs. Ichabod Terry, one of Mr. Metcalf's daughters), the settlers below her father's place were in the following order: Thomas Tillotson (Andrew Canfield with him), Salmon Bosworth, — Preston, Benajah Bostwick, Ephraim Fairchild, Ezekiel Brown, Samuel and Aden Stevens, — Rockwell, Elisha Keeler, John Bradshaw, Abraham Taylor, Jonas Ingham, and Job Camp. These, though below the present county line, were then considered neighbors of settlers above the forks.

The graves of some of these early settlers may be seen in the cemetery, near the Stevensville church; four miles below the Susquehanna County line. Benajah Bostwick died in 1864—he was born in 1776; Isaac Hancock in 1820, in his eightieth year; his wife died two years later; Deacon Aden Stevens in 1858, aged 88; John Bradshaw in 1814; Daniel Ross in 1837, aged 68. Mr. Metcalf removed, in 1798, to a location about one and a half miles above the forks, on the East Branch.

Andrew Canfield moved from Litchfield County, Connecticut, about the 20th of January, 1797, with his wife and six children, and reached the forks, or rather a point a little below, on the 5th of February, 1797. There was then no road from Great Bend to the Wyalusing. They crossed the Delaware River near Port Jarvis, and struck the Susquehanna at Skinner's Eddy; thence came up the river and creek to the place mentioned above (outside of Susquehanna County), to the house of Thomas Tillison (or Tillotson), where they lived two years before moving to Middletown. They drove what was then called a spike team—a yoke of cattle with a horse as leader—hitched to a wood-shod sled. His son, Amos, then 15 years old, now (1870) in his eighty-fifth year, says:—

"We drove one cow, which we milked night and morning for the children;" and adds, respecting the settlement: "A family of the name of Rossell, two brothers and a sister, lived three-fourths of a mile up the East Branch, on

what has since been called the Captain Howell place; and all were deaf and dumb. They afterwards removed to the 'Lake Country.' There was no clearing between them and Great Bend. This was just prior to the settlement of Lawsville.

"The next summer after we came, Joab Picket, from Connecticut, cut a fallow on the place now owned by N. D. Snyder, which was not burned till the summer of 1799. [Mr. Miner mentions him *and family* at the latter date.] Trees were marked from the Forks to Great Bend, but the route was west of Montrose some three miles.

"I recollect two brothers named Bennett, who came in the next winter after we did. They drove an ox-team, and crossed the Susquehanna at the Bend, and made their way to the Forks. The snow was nigh three feet deep. They drove their oxen until their team was tired out, when they left their load, and drove them as far as Picket's fallow; where they left them to browse in the yoke, while they made their way to the Forks, with their feet badly frozen. The next day they got my father to go after the cattle and sled. He took me with him. We took a knapsack of corn for the oxen, and victuals for ourselves. The oxen had taken their track and gone back. We followed some three or four miles and found them feeding on top of a hill west of Montrose. We then drove on until we found the sled. As it was night, we fed the oxen some corn, and cut down a bass-wood tree, to which we chained them. We prepared for the night by building a fire and getting some hemlock boughs to make a bed of. It snowed all night. The next day we returned.

"One of the oxen with which my father moved in died the next spring; and he made a short yoke, in which he worked the remaining ox by the side of his horse. He drove them the same as he did the oxen, without reins. For two years it was the fancy team in that region.

"There was plenty of game in the woods, and trout in the creeks. We could kill a deer or catch a mess of fish any day. Bears, wolves, and panthers were often killed."

Silas Beardsley, afterwards on the North Branch, was then at the Forks.

A beautiful row of large maples now skirts the road on the flat where Joab Picket's first cabin stood, on the opposite side of the creek from Snyder's hotel, and where an old apple tree still stands. No name occurs more frequently in the early annals of the town than Captain Picket's. (He rose to the rank of major.) From his opposition to the claims of the Pennsylvania landholders, arose what is sometimes styled the "Picket war," in which it must be owned he was the aggressor. This was a second assault upon Captain Bartlet Hinds (who was the first to give up the validity of a Connecticut title), five years after the famous riot mentioned in the chapter on the Intrusion Law. An indiscreet use of fire-arms, in carrying out his opposition to having the land surveyed under the Pennsylvania claim, brought him before the court. He was indicted April, 1808, tried the following November, found guilty, and was sentenced to pay thirty dollars and the costs of prosecution. The decision in this case, and the opportune influence of Dr. Rose about this time, finally quieted the people, if it did not convince them.

Captain Picket held several town offices. He removed from the flat and resided, at the time of his death, in that part of Rush now included in Jessup. He and his wife died on the same morning, May, 1832, both aged sixty-one, and were buried in the same grave, in the cemetery near the Bolles school-house. He had seven sons: Samuel, born in Connecticut, 1791, now lives in Auburn, Susquehanna County; Shelden, who never resided here; Daniel, Charles Miner P., the first male child born in Rush; Orrin, Anson, and Almon; Polly, his only daughter, married Alanson Lung.

Hon. Charles Miner styled Captain Picket "the famous *painter* killer." He had the first saw-mill on the Wyalusing in the town.

In 1798, Colonel Ezekiel Hyde, the Yankee leader, was at the Forks, in "Rindaw;" the west line of "Usher" being in Rush, between Metcalf and Hyde. He was engaged in surveying, and selling lots under the Connecticut title. In what manner he became so much of a Pennsylvanian as to be appointed postmaster at Wilkes-Barre, so early as 1804, does not appear. He died in 1805.

Captain Jabez Hyde, a near relative of Colonel Hyde, was at the Forks, next east of Isaac Brownson, in 1799, with his family.

Jabez Hyde, Jr., is said to have been there even two years earlier.

The year 1799 witnessed a rapid increase in the number of settlers on the East Branch, or main stream of the Wyalusing.

Nathan Tupper and William Lathrop came in together, from Unadilla, N. Y., locating at what is now Grangerville. They cut their road a part of the distance. Stephen Wilson's house was then the only one in Bridgewater. Deacon Lathrop's cabin had only a blanket for a door, and he was obliged to pile up wood against it at night to keep out the wolves. His location was at the mouth of Lake Creek. He lived here until his death, in 1865, in his ninetieth year. Of the ten children of Wm. Lathrop, only two, Nelson and Catharine (widow of Eben Picket, of Jessup), are living in Susquehanna County.

Hiel Tupper, son of Nathan, settled on the Middle Branch, in Rush, two miles from any inhabitant, in one direction, and three miles in another. He married Phalla Downer, Feb. 5, 1807, had eight children (the sons were Levi and Harvey), and lived on the same place till he died, Jan. 19, 1865.

While preparing his log house in the woods, his home was two miles off; and he was accustomed, on Monday morning, to take a load of provisions, and stay until Saturday night, often not seeing a human being during the week.

He was once hired to go to Great Bend for some cattle that

had strayed away. He found them at Snake Creek, where night overtook him; and, as it was cold, he was obliged to pass the hours in running around a tree to keep warm. He did not see a person while gone from home.

Harry and Loren Tupper, younger sons of Nathan, with his five daughters—Mrs. Spencer Lathrop, Mrs. Nehemiah Lathrop, Mrs. Merritt Mott, Mrs. Willard Mott, and Mrs. Abel Chatfield—settled within the county.

Enoch Reynolds, of Norwich, Connecticut, established a store at Rindaw (Hyde's place), as an experiment. Charles Miner says of him:—

"A few years after, I found him at Washington, one of the comptrollers of the treasury, with a salary of \$1700 a year. He was a learned and accomplished gentleman, and would relieve the tedium of a journey through an uninhabited tract of road, by a story from Shakspeare (Macbeth, or Lear with his heartless daughters), as perhaps no other settler could equal."

Cyril (or Seril) Peck came to explore in 1799, and afterwards cleared the Williams farm, in the lower part of the township, near Auburn, where he resided until his death, in 1811.

At April sessions, 1799, the court at Wilkes-Barre was petitioned to order a road "from near the Forks of the Wyalusing to intersect the road from Tunkhannock to Great Bend," etc., and viewers were appointed, who reported at August sessions, 1801, thus:—

"Beginning at the southeast corner of E. Hyde's store, thence running to Captain Picket's, thence to the creek by S. Maine's, thence to Mr. John Reynolds', thence to Ozem Cook's, thence to Captain Hinds', thence to Snake Creek, thence to the Barnum north and south road running through Kirby and Law's settlement, to a tree by D. Barnum's, thence on to intersect the road running from the Great Bend to Tunkhannock near the bank of Wyley's Creek, about one hundred and twenty chains south of Great Bend." Report approved.

This, with the minute details omitted, gives the route of a road, which has again and again been altered in certain places, along the Wyalusing.

The same year, Ezekiel Hyde and others petitioned for a road afterwards obtained, from the Forks, nearly north to the State line; and others petitioned for one from the Forks to Tioga Point.

In 1800, Walter Lathrop, from New London County, Conn. (father of the late Judge Benjamin Lathrop), settled on what is now known as the Levi Shove farm; but he remained there only two or three years, when he removed to a farm in Bridge-water, nearly three miles south of Montrose, where he died in 1818.

"The farms on the Wyalusing below the present western line of Jessup, were occupied by the first settlers in the following order: Levi Leonard,

Elijah Adams, Nathan Tupper, Wm. Lathrop, Salmon Brown, John Jay, Joab Picket, Dan Metcalf, Jabez Hyde, Isaac Brownson, and Daniel Ross.

"In 1801, when Isaac Hancock was appointed justice of the peace for Rush, he was located where Dan Metcalf began in 1795, on the farm adjoining that of Daniel Ross. When Susquehanna County was erected, its west line was run between them, and the name of the part set off with Bradford County, was changed to Pike township.

"Esq. Hancock was born near Westchester, Pa. Before the Revolutionary war, he was at Wyalusing for a time, and returned there about 1785.¹ He is mentioned on the records of Luzerne County as a 'taverner' for Springfield township, in 1788. At this time he was also one of the overseers of the poor, for the district composed of the whole extent of Luzerne County, from the mouth of the Meshoppen, north to the State line. His sons were John and Jesse. Of his seven daughters, Mrs. Daniel Ross, Mrs. Jesse Ross, and Mrs. Benajah Frink were residents of this county. The last named was twin with Jesse H., and is the only one of the family now living. Mrs. Frink states, that Polly Canfield (of the Middletown family) taught school *on a rock*, somewhere on the farm of Daniel Ross, about 1798, and had six scholars.

"Huldah Fairchild, daughter of Ephraim, also taught school early in this neighborhood.

"Elders Sturdevant and Thomas Smiley were among the first preachers here.

"There was, in 1801, no settler on the east and west road between Elk Lake, in the present township of Dimock, and the mouth of its outlet, in Rush."

April, 1801, on petition of Seril Peck and others, viewers were appointed to lay out a road from Joab Picket's, south along the Deer Lick to Auburn. They accomplished their task August, 1802, and reported at January sessions, 1803. Jabez Hyde, Jr., was assessor in 1802, and Joab Picket and Stephen Wilson were supervisors; Aden Stevens was collector. The latter two resided at the east and west extremes of the township, eighteen miles apart; Stephen Wilson being one-half mile below Montrose, and Colonel Stevens at Stevensville, now Bradford County. The territory the collector canvassed is now embraced in eight or ten townships; the county seat was seventy miles distant, "to which the scanty taxes—only \$130—gathered by a thousand miles travel through trackless swamp and forests, were conveyed. Few, if any, remain whose names were then on the list." Colonel Aden Stevens died July 28, 1858, aged eighty-eight.

In 1804, elections were held at Jabez Hyde's.

Colonel Thomas Parke was supervisor of Rush in 1805. J. W. Raynsford was at the same time one of the auditors. Soon after they were included in Bridgewater.

Not long after the beginning of the century, changes occurred in the occupation and ownership of the farms on the Wyalusing. Most of the cabins of the first residents were nearer the creek, and across the road, from the houses of the

¹ From Rev. D. Craft's 'Wyalusing.'

present. In several cases we have only the memory of survivors to indicate their sites—the old landmarks and relics of former occupancy being obliterated.

In 1806, Col. Ephraim Knowlton came to the Leonard farm. He resided here until his death, in 1838. The Adams farm, now owned by Robert Reynolds, was for years owned by John Hancock, and the house of the latter is still standing. Ebenezer Picket, Sr., came from Vermont several years later than his son Joab, and settled where Nathan Tupper had made the first clearing. The place was afterwards occupied by Warren Lung; and Robert Reynolds has recently moved to it. Mr. Picket's wife died here in 1808. He died in 1826, aged 80 years. Ebenezer Picket, Jr., resided with his father until his marriage (with Catharine, daughter of Deacon William Lathrop), when he built near where the Baptist meeting-house at Grangerville, now stands; he afterwards lived on the State road, but for thirty or more years preceding his death, he occupied the David Doud farm, next below the Bolles school-house. He died in 1867, in his 81st year.

In 1810, a road was surveyed from Jonathan West's (then in Bridgewater), to John Jay's, passing Nathan Tupper's place.

In 1811, Jabez Hyde, Jr., was elected sheriff of Luzerne, under circumstances which showed the strong hold he had on the public confidence. In 1814, he was in the Legislature; and two years later, on the election of Dr. Charles Fraser to the Senate, he was appointed by Gov. Snyder to take his place as prothonotary, register, recorder, and clerk of Susquehanna County. These offices he held until 1820. The next year he was again elected to the Legislature, and in 1823 was appointed one of the three commissioners for expending \$50,000 in improving the navigation of the Susquehanna River. He was a delegate to the State Convention for altering the Constitution. After the revision, he was appointed by Gov. Porter to the Bench of Susquehanna County. Perseverance was strongly characteristic of Judge Hyde. Few men have in times of political excitement, held so many important trusts, and had so universally the esteem of their fellow citizens for strict high-minded integrity. He died at his residence, in Rush, Oct. 8th, 1841, aged 66.

Stephen Hyde resided with his father, and brother Jabez, Jr. He was accidentally and fatally shot while hunting, by Horace Dimock, in the summer of 1811 or '12.

In 1812, Dennis Granger came from Vermont, and located near the cemetery, where he resided until his recent death.

William Granger was killed, while assisting to raise the barn now standing near the main road, on the place long known as the Warren Lung farm.

In 1813 or '14, Levi Shove occupied John Jay's farm, on which Walter Lathrop made the first clearing.

In 1818, Joab Picket's farm (now Snyder's) was occupied by William Ross.

That of Dan Metcalf was occupied by Ichabod Terry, who married Lucilla, daughter of Mr. Metcalf. Mr. Terry remained here until his death, in 1849, at the age of 66 years. It is but very recently that the large stone chimney of the old homestead disappeared.

Salmon Brown's place (now Elder H. H. Gray's), was for many years occupied by Alanson Lung.

Daniel Ross died on the place he cleared over seventy years ago. The homestead forms a part of the hotel of Wm. H. Sherwood.

After the organization of Susquehanna County, and consequent division of Rush, one-fourth of the poor-tax was allowed, in 1813, to that portion remaining in Bradford County. The list of taxables for 1813, within the present bounds of Rush, in addition to the persons previously mentioned as residents, included several who appear to have remained but a few years: Hezekiah Low, Daniel Roots, and others. Jabez Sumner resided on the Deer Lick, and afterwards in Auburn. Fairchild Canfield was two miles up the North Branch.

Robert H. Rose, Henry Drinker, and others were taxed for unseated lands. Their names occur on the town records, for the first time, in the transcripts of 1810 and 1812.

The whole number, including residents of Choconut and Middletown—as they were before the organization of Jessup and Forest Lake—was about 180. The same year a bridge was ordered, near Joab Picket's, across the Wyalusing, to be built at the expense of the county. A road was surveyed from the North Branch to the Middle Branch of the Wyalusing.

In 1816, Lloyd Goodsell (from Auburn?), Philander and Francis Pepper, from Connecticut; Robert Estes, and others were here.

John M. Brownson was then town clerk; and in 1818, he was a merchant at the Forks. William Lathrop had a saw-mill at the junction of Lake Creek with the Wyalusing.

Elections were held at Joab Picket's.

In 1819, Larry Dunmore, George Devine, Jacob Eaton, William Lathrop, Jr., and John Hancock, were among the new taxables. The last named was afterwards town clerk, overseer of the poor, and county commissioner.

Russel Very was here in 1820; Isaac Deuel in 1823.

In 1824, Rushville post-office was established; David Shove, postmaster.

In 1825, there appears on the town records a list of "ear-

marks," by which the sheep and swine of the different owners in the town might be recognized.

J. Demmon Pepper was on the Mineral Spring farm in 1826. His father was located not far from it.

David Dewers was here in 1827.

Tarbox, Burrows & Co. were merchants at Rushville in 1829. The building occupied by them was consumed by fire on the 29th of October, 1871.

In 1831, Samuel Shoemaker was taxed with a grist mill, near the confluence of the outlet of Elk Lake and Wyalusing Creek. Richard S. Shoemaker, a brother, purchased and took possession of this property in 1838. The present mills, grist and saw-mill, were built in 1858; and make use of both of the above-named creeks. S. Shoemaker had seven sons, of whom four reside in Susquehanna County.

In 1835, Rush Centre post-office was established. Two years later, Bruce's Valley post-office took its place. It was located at the present residence of H. H. Gray. Alanson Lung and A. Pickett were the postmasters here. This is discontinued, and Rush post-office, at Grangerville, takes its place. The East Rush post-office, of which J. F. Dunmore was the first postmaster, was established prior to the last named.

David Hillis, the first Irish settler, came in 1836; — Carroll, in 1839; P. Redding, in 1841; and James Logan, in 1842.

Mrs. Catharine Calwell, born in Ireland, died in Rush, August, 1872, aged 105 years.

Within a few years, a Baptist church has been erected at Grangerville. At Rushville, the Presbyterian church was built in great part by Henry J. Champion and Chandler Bixby, both now dead. The Roman Catholic church is at Bixby's Pond. There are three M. E. churches in the township; at East Rush, Rush Center, and on Devine Ridge. The last named was built in 1867-8, principally through the liberality of George Devine and sons. Five of the latter live here on adjoining farms.

Among the physicians who have practiced in Rush, the first on record is Dr. Reuben Baker, who married a daughter of Isaac Hancock. He lived just below the latter, and consequently outside of the county; but was generally to be found, it is said, at the Deer Lick—his leisure being spent in hunting. He practiced extensively over the western half of the county, prior to the in-coming of Dr. Leet, of Friendsville. (See Physicians.)

Rush has but one store, kept by N. Granger, at Grangerville, who has been in the business there for about twenty-four years.

The poor-house of Rush, Auburn, Forest Lake, and Springville, is located on the Larry Dunmore farm.

The Wyalusing Railway, to extend from the mouth of the Wyalusing to the forks, or junction, of the North Branch, is projected.

CHAPTER XVI.

DIMOCK.

DIMOCK was principally included in Springville from 1814 to December, 1832, when it became the nineteenth township, taking from Bridgewater one mile across its southern border.

The town was named in honor of Davis Dimock, then associate judge of the Susquehanna courts.

Excepting a slight alteration of the line between Dimock and Jessup, its dimensions have remained as at first, six and a half miles east and west, by four and a half miles north and south.

From the timber frequently found here it has been sometimes called "The Basswood township."

With the exception of the outlet of Elk Lake and near tributaries, the township is wholly drained by the Meshoppen, or *Mawshapi*, in Indian language, signifying *cord* or *reed* stream. (So, Chapman, who generally quoted from Heckewelder; but another authority makes it *glass beads*, from a distribution of them among the Indians in this locality.)

The area of Dimock, under the Connecticut surveys, was comprised of parts of Chebur, Bidwell, Dandolo, and Manor. The last named was only three and three-quarters miles in width, while most of the townships were six miles square.

The first settlers of Dimock were Thomas and Henry Parke in 1796; Joseph Chapman and son Joseph in Chebur, temporarily, in 1798; George Mowry, and sons Ezekiel and Charles, as early as 1799, in the western part of Manor; Martin Myers and Thomas Giles the same year; Asa and Ezekiel Lathrop and Asahel Avery, 1800-1802.

Thomas Parke, usually styled Colonel Parke, came with his younger brother Henry from Charleston, R. I., June, 1796, and commenced a clearing on the Meshoppen Creek, near the southeast corner of what is now Dimock township. They were the sons of Benjamin Parke, who was slain at the battle of Bunker Hill (being in command of a company) June, 1775, leaving a widow, four sons, and two daughters. Thomas and Henry were the younger sons, and, under the care of their grandfather, a

Puritan clergyman, received a good education. Thomas was a fine mathematician, a good practical surveyor, and an occasional contributor to the newspapers of that day published at Wilkes-Barre by Charles Miner and others. He had filled several minor offices in his native State, invested his patrimony and means in the purchase of the Connecticut title to lands in Pennsylvania, and came here the legal owner, as he supposed, of some 10,000 acres—nearly half of the township of Bidwell—lying on the waters of the Meshoppen, and covering parts of what is now Dimock and Springville. He fixed his residence on the farm (Parkevale) where he lived till his death in 1842. When he came to look up his lands he found only two settlers west of "Nine Partners," and they were near to what is now Brooklyn Center. West of that to the Wyalusing Creek was a belt of twenty-five miles north and south, an unbroken forest. With the aid of his compass he explored and marked a path to the forks of the Wyalusing, the nearest place where any bread-stuffs could be obtained, from whence they were to be brought on his back until the next season, when a small green crop was raised. In the winter of 1797 he walked home to Charleston, R. I., and walked back the next spring.

In 1800, he returned to Rhode Island, and was married to Eunice Champlin, of Newport; and in 1802, brought her with an infant son to a log-cabin in his wilderness home. Here, a true helpmeet to her husband, and a blessing to all who knew her, she raised a family of eight children. She died November 10, 1858, in the ninetieth year of her age.

In an obituary notice of Col. Parke, published in the 'Susquehanna Register,' in 1842, it is stated that he was employed as an agent by several persons who held bodies of land under the same title as his own, and spent most of the first years of his residence here, in surveying and dividing the country into townships and lots for selling to the settlers. Knowing that this territory was covered by the charter to Connecticut, and had always been claimed by the Connecticut company, he, in common with many of the soundest men in the Union, believed that the Connecticut claimants had the best title to the land. So believing, he firmly adhered to his rights, and defended the title both by argument and with his pen, until the legislative and judicial tribunals of the last resort had settled the question otherwise. He never believed the decree at Trenton just or right.

During the pendency of this controversy, he evinced that scrupulous honesty, and unswerving integrity, which through life characterized all his acts, by refusing to give up the agency for the Connecticut claimants, and to accept an agency on the other side, together with a *lease for all the lands he claimed*;

which would have made his title indisputable. He thought that in so doing he would show a distrust of the title under which he and others claimed lands; give his opponents an advantage over others for whom he acted, and thereby injure those who, relying upon his integrity, had entrusted their interests to his care, and who were not present to accept a surrender of his agency, and act for themselves. By this decision he lost all the worldly estate he possessed, and was afterwards obliged to purchase upon credit, from his successful opponents, paying, by surveying, about six hundred acres, including the farm upon which he resided and died.

He was for three years one of the commissioners of Luzerne County, and one of the three trustees appointed by the governor, in 1811, to run the lines, lay off, and organize Susquehanna County.

His eldest son, Hon. Benj. Parke, LL.D., after an absence of some thirty years, returned to the paternal home in 1860. This is near the site of the log-house to which he was brought in 1802.

"That dwelling stood in a beautiful valley, nearly surrounded by hills, beside a brook of pure water which ran through, and gave name to the valley. Though of unhewn logs, it was of ample size and comfortable. It appeared, however, as a home far different to those who then saw it for the first time, than it did to the one who had toiled six years to prepare it. Col. Parke brought with him his sister, a young and accomplished girl, besides his wife and infant son. They, as most of the women who emigrated early to Susquehanna County, had been reared in the bosom of New England families, and left the society of dear friends and relations. They had enjoyed, too, from childhood, a frequent intercourse with the city of Newport, the then emporium of New England fashion and style. What a change and contrast! A small clearing in the midst of a dense forest; few neighbors within five miles, and none nearer than a mile and a half of their dwelling. Their house, being of larger size than most others near, and upon the only traveled road leading eastward, in that section, was the general stopping-place of most of those coming from the Eastern States, to look for or settle upon farms in that part of the country. Here they were most cheerfully received, and entertained without charge, though beds and floors were frequently filled and covered with lodgers.

"No one then thought of receiving pay from such transient guests. Their company and the news they brought from the outer world was more than an equivalent for their entertainment."¹

Sarah C., daughter of Col. Thomas Parke, was born here December 5, 1802—the first birth in the township.

One of our venerable townsmen who, when eighteen years old, was living at Col. Parke's, communicates the following in reference to Henry Parke:—

¹ Extracted from an address delivered at the Nineteenth Annual Fair of the Susquehanna County Agricultural Society, October 5, 1865, by Mr. Parke, then president of the society.

"An uncle of the Hon. Benj. Parke was occasionally a resident there for some days together. He was a very sociable, intelligent gentleman, and I was often entertained with his account of the first settlement of that region. Among other things, he told of backing provision from Black Walnut Bottom, on the river, following a line of marked trees; and once, being belated, he failed to find the clearing, and camped by the side of a log till morning. Starting again, in a few moments he discovered the clearing, and was much vexed that he had lain out so near home."

This incident proved a serious one to Mr. H. Parke; he became chilled that wintry night, and his constitution was permanently injured. He was an early school teacher, and for many years acted as constable, deputy sheriff, and tax collector for the northern part of Luzerne County, then extending to the north line of the State. He owned and, for several years, resided upon the farm (Woodbourne), now the residence of George Walker, Esq. He was never married. He died in the city of New York, in 1831.

The venerable Charles Miner, of Wyoming, wrote, not long before his death, respecting this region as it was in 1799 and 1800:—

"Thomas Parke and his brother Henry—active intelligent men—with a black boy, were alone in Bidwell. Charles Mowry was one of my fellow-students in Nature's beechwoods academy. After I became a printer, he wrote an article for my paper. I said to him, 'Mr. Mowry, you are capable of better things than rolling logs. Come to my office, and in two years you will be fitted for a printer and editor.' Brother Asher at Doylestown needing help, he entered his office, proved a good writer, clear, nervous; became preceptor in the academy; established a paper at Downingtown, Chester County, which he sustained with profit and reputation many years. He was invited by Governor Findlay's friends to remove to Harrisburg, and he afterwards became canal commissioner. As honest and clever a fellow as ever breathed, but as thorough a Democrat as I was Federalist."

Reference was made in the annals of Brooklyn to the temporary residence, in 1798, of Captain Chapman and son, in Chebur, to 400 acres of which they supposed they held a legal title; but this eventually shared the fate of Colonel Parke's.

They named their place "Montcalm;" cleared a few acres around the site of the house they erected in 1799, on the Tingley farm, about a mile below Dimock Corners. In the fall of the same year it was occupied by Martin Myers, while his own house was being built a short distance below, and while the family of Captain Chapman were in Dandolo, on the farm now occupied by C. M. Chapman, his great-grandson. Joseph Chapman, Jr., remained there permanently, but his father and the younger members of the family came to "Montcalm" in the spring of 1800.

"Isaac A. and Edward, sons of Captain Joseph Chapman, were boys who spent their days in the laborious occupation of felling and clearing the forest, and assisting to provide for the wants of the family; and their evenings by the light of a huge blazing fire, studying whatever books could be obtained

from the few 'settlers,' who lived within a circle of from ten to twenty miles around, and who were all neighbors warmly interested in each other's welfare and happiness. In this manner, aided by a very intelligent elder sister, and the occasional assistance of the more educated of the settlers, did these two brothers educate and improve themselves to such a degree, that to human apprehension, only an early death prevented them from being the very first men in our State. They were both excellent mathematicians, practical surveyors, and draughtsmen. Poetry and landscape painting were occasionally resorted to as an amusement, and many of the singular events and rude scenes of that new and wild country were the subjects of their pen and pencil. Edward afterwards studied law, and commenced the practice at Sunbury, where he died deeply lamented by all who ever had the pleasure of his acquaintance." (From 'Harrisburg Keystone,' 1839. B. Parke, Esq. Editor.)

In reference to the sister to whom they were so much indebted, the Hon. Charles Miner said:—

"Miss Lydia Chapman, a lady of high intelligence and great merit, became an inhabitant of Wilkes-Barre and an instructress of a school. Married with Dr. G. W. Trott; their accomplished daughter intermarried with the Hon. G. W. Woodward."

He added:—

"Edward and Isaac Abel Chapman opened upon the world first-rate men. The fine poem¹ by Edward, commencing—

'Columbia's shores are wild and wide,
Columbia's hills are high,
And rudely planted side by side,
Her forests meet the eye'—

justly challenges the critic's praise.

"Isaac became an editor; proved an excellent writer, but was too independent to be a party printer in ancient times. For many years he was engineer in the employ of the Mauch Chunk Company, whose confidence and favor attest his scientific accuracy and social merit."

In 1826, Isaac A. Chapman invented the Syphon Canal-lock. His death occurred December, 1827, at Manch Chunk. Two years later proposals were issued for the publication of his 'History of Wyoming,' which eventually appeared. The preface, by himself, bears date July 11, 1818. He took the census of Susquehanna County in 1810.

Martin Myers was a Hessian soldier in the British army during the Revolution. He came to Pennsylvania from one of the New England States, having left the service before the close of the war, and settled down as a peaceable citizen of the country against which he had been sent to fight.

By the contract between the Government of Great Britain and the Prince of Hesse-Cassel, a sum of money was to be paid to the latter for all the Hessians not returned, and they were, at the end of the war, carefully sought for to be taken back.

¹ This is said to have been written during the war of 1812. Edward Chapman taught school in Brooklyn in 1810, at which time Hon. B. Parke was one of his pupils.

Myers, not wishing to return, sought concealment, and was aided by a young woman with whom he had become acquainted. He was not found, and after the troops had left the country this woman became his wife. In the fall of 1799, he is said to have carried the following load upon his back from Black's mill, on the Wyalusing, up to the forks of the creek—a distance of ten miles—the flour of one bushel of wheat, one bushel of rye, fourteen shad, and a gun. At the Forks he added to his load, one gallon and a pint of whiskey, a large bake-kettle weighing twenty-five pounds, and a common-sized cross-cut saw, all of which he carried without assistance thirteen miles further to his own residence. These thirteen miles were entirely in the woods, and he was guided only by a line of marked trees. This Samson-like feat was performed by no "Samson in size," as we are told by his daughter, Mrs. Button, who also informs us that his grave is one-half mile east of Dimock Corners. He has a son, Alvin, now living in Rush. Another son, Surzardis, formerly resided in Dimock.

In 1799, Thomas Giles, from Conn., moved in between Col. Parke's place and Brooklyn. Soon after, his daughter Fanny, aged four years, while gathering chestnuts in the woods near the house, was lost. Many people joined in the search for her. "On the third day there were persons there who lived thirty miles away. No trace of her was ever found."

Asa Lathrop came from Conn., in 1800, but did not bring in his family until 1801; when they located near the present farm of Denison Thomas. He removed, not long after, to the outlet of the lakes so long known by his name, where he built one of the first grist-mills, possibly the first in operation in all this section; though Harris' mill on the Wyalusing was projected previously. The mill is now owned by F. Fargo, a son of Alice, the youngest daughter of Asa Lathrop.

Asa L—— died in 1827, aged 72. His sons were James, Walter, and Asa. A story told by the eldest is repeated by one of his sons:—

James Lathrop, hearing the squealing of pigs, one bright moonlight night (about 1810), rose, went out, and found a bear had scaled the log fence—five feet high—with a porker weighing 200 lbs.; and had walked off hugging it, and was then in the act of getting over another fence, when, seeing Mr. L. coming and brandishing a bush-hook, he dropped the porker and took to the woods on all fours.

The sons of James were Israel B., Wm. F., Austin B., and Charles J.

Ezekiel Lathrop's family are said to have been here before that of Asa, or in 1800. This is according to the statement of one of his sons, Nehemiah, who was eleven years old when his father came, and is now—Sept. 1870—eighty-two; while

another son feels confident that it could not have been earlier than 1802. All outside testimony seems to favor the earlier date. (This instance of discrepancy may serve to show how extremely difficult it has been for the compiler, in many other cases, to reconcile two or more conflicting statements, each apparently reliable.)

The earliest religious services of the vicinity were held at the house of Ezekiel L——, very near the present line of Auburn, southwest of the Lakes. His son Dyer occupies a part of the old farm.

The sons of Ezekiel were: Spencer, Dyer, Nehemiah, Ezekiel, and John.

1801. Asahel Avery, wife, and six children came from New London Co., Conn., to the farm since known as that of Wm. D. Cope, but then mapped under the Connecticut title as the southeast corner of Manor. They entered their log-house when it was but two-thirds roofed. There was a flooring through the centre only, of split bass-wood logs; the horse and calf were on one side of this, and the fireplace—no jambs—was against the wall on the other side.

Bears were in the neighborhood of "Pine Hill" (the ridge on which C. Hollister lives), and one of the children, now a respected justice of the peace at Montrose, was once so effectually frightened by them as never to forget it.

Mr. A—— was a carpenter, and his services were in requisition in remote portions of the county, then Luzerne. His cabin, on the sight of the present "tenant house," was about to be given up for a frame house across the road, the timber of which he had prepared, when he sold the place with his improvements, in 1808 or 9, to John Williams, and moved to Great Bend, where he died Feb. 1813. His widow removed to Montrose with her son Charles and died here.

John Williams sold, in a few years, to John W. Robinson, who purchased what was known as the Wallace estate—8000 acres—and all the contracts previously made. Mr. Avery had purchased under the Connecticut title.

On petition of Stephen Wilson and others in 1801, for a road to run past Thomas and Henry Parke's, the court appointed viewers, and the road was ultimately opened down to the Chapman farm (Montcalm), and thence to Col. Parke's, where it intersected a road leading eastward to "Nine Partners."

At an early day, Nehemiah Maine made a clearing where I. P. Baker now lives.

Ralph Loomis, from Ct., was east of the corners.

The following item was furnished by Mr. Jesse Bagley, July, 1871:—

"In 1806 I worked for Col. Parke when the first militia training was held there; Thomas Parke, Captain, Myron Kasson, Lieut., Joseph Chapman, Ensign, and myself Sergeant or Corporal. Abiathar Tuttle is the only man now living who trained with me. Capt. (afterwards Col.) Parke proposed, that to every one who would the next time appear in uniform—blue coat and white pantaloons—he would give a dinner. About twenty so appeared and were treated to an excellent dinner."

In 1808, George W. Lane came from Windham Co., Vt., to the farm afterwards occupied many years by Philander Stephens. He removed to a place a little southwest of that, in Dimock.

Samuel Davis and family came from the same place the same year, and located not far from Pine Hill.

About 1810 or 1811, Henry Parke taught a winter school at his house; and the families of Avery, West, and Fuller were represented in that school. The last named resided just below Capt. Bard, in Bridgewater, and his brother-in-law, Elias West, was where Friend Hollister now lives; the line between Bridgewater and Dimock running through the farm.

Joshua Smith, from Groton, Conn., reached Dimock (then Bridgewater) in 1812; the fourteenth day of his journey, and located on the east and west road leading past Lathrop's Lakes, where his son Urbane, the youngest of eleven children, now lives. A few years later, Silas, another son, when about ten years old, was followed by a pack of wolves just west of this place, and barely reached his father's yard in safety.

Mr. Smith died December 30, 1840, aged 76; his widow, Sabra, died April 3, 1842, aged 70. Both were highly esteemed members of the Baptist church.

Erastus and William Rathbun (the latter a clothier) were near the southern shore of the lakes prior to 1813, but remained only a few years.

Oliver Scott took up the place afterwards occupied by Samuel A. Brown (J. P. in 1821), between Woodbourne and the Corners, where a clump of pines is still to be seen, though the house they shaded was burned to the ground years ago.

Wm. Harkins, an early settler on the Hopbottom, came to Dimock a few years later, and died here in 1825.

Amos and Allen Lawrence, from the same neighborhood, settled a mile or two east of the Corners.

About 1813, John Bolles and family removed from Wilkes-Barre to the Chapman farm (Montcalm), and remained there for several years. He then settled on the farm adjoining Dimock Corners, afterwards owned by Lewis Brush, Esq. He died in Bridgewater, at the residence of his son-in-law, ex-sheriff Thomas Johnson, at the age of 90.

Avery Bolles, his son, began on "Pine Hill," put up a small

frame house, which he removed about forty-five years ago to his present farm, and Elhanan Smith took the place he left.

In 1814, Israel Hewitt began a clearing east of Dimock Corners. His farm is now owned by F. Newton and Wm. Bunnell.

Frazier Eaton began where Benjamin Blakeslee afterwards lived and died.

Jacob Perkins made an improvement on the place now owned by Samuel Sherer. He first occupied a log house of Elias West's, then Edward Fuller's place, until his own house was built. From this he moved to the present Baxter place, on the Wilkes-Barre turnpike, where he died.

In 1814, Henry Parke and others petitioned for a road "from near Joshua Smith's to pass by or near to Phineas Arms', and come into the post-road near the house lately occupied by E. Fuller." Stephen Wilson, Isaac Post, Zebulon Deans, Jacob Roberts, Samuel Kellum, and John Bard were appointed viewers, August, 1814; their report was accepted, and in April, 1815, a certificate was issued to Z. Deans to open the road. The following month another certificate authorized the opening of a road from Joshua Smith's to a point near the house of Salmon Thomas, in Springville. The viewers were, Isaac A. Chapman, Ezra Tuttle, Frazier Eaton, and Joshua Smith.

About the same time, or a little previous, a road "from the tenth mile-tree past Thomas Parke's clearing" is mentioned—James Spencer, Ezra Tuttle, Salmon Tuttle, Zophar and Aaron Blakeslee, viewers. The road was finally ordered.

In 1814, George Young settled on the farm previously located by Denison Gere, and now owned by his son, John Young, ex-sheriff. He died in 1831, aged seventy-two. David Young, Sen., a brother of George, came in 1815, buying out Joseph and James Camp (of whom, as of Mr. Gere, nothing further is known). Mr. Young died before 1831, aged seventy-five. His farm of four hundred acres is divided, the homestead-lot being occupied by his grandson, Chas. M., son of John Newton Young. David Young, Jr., died within a few years.

In 1815, Samuel Kellum, formerly on the old Eldridge farm in Bridgewater, bought the Chapman farm, including three of the four corners where the State road crosses the Wilkes-Barre turnpike. Four years later he advertised the same for sale, stating that there were then four hundred and fifty thrifty apple trees on the place. The farm appears to have been purchased by Englishmen.

In 1816, Elisha Gates and his son-in-law, John Lewis, from Groton, Conn., settled on the farm immediately north of Col. Parke's. Mr. Gates was known as the best arithmetician in

his neighborhood. He was frequently called upon to solve many knotty and puzzling mathematical questions, not only by his neighbors, but by persons from other counties. He had four daughters, and two sons, John and George. In our late civil war, John had three, and George six sons (all he had), in the Union army.

About 1817, Simon Stevens, from Braintrim, located on the place formerly owned by Erastus and William Rathbun. He had fourteen children; three sons and three daughters still reside in the vicinity.

Mr. Stevens had filled the offices of commissioner and of register and recorder; and was well known and respected in the county. He was a prominent anti-Mason. He died in Dimock, May, 1841, aged about sixty-five.

In 1818, a new post-office was established, called Springville Four Corners, though the office itself was kept nearly a mile from the Corners, on the next hill north, by John W. Robinson, who afterwards sold to Wm. D. Cope. The house was the one for which Asahel Avery had made preparation; it was burned in 1830, when Mr. Cope lost with it the most of his furniture.

"Woodbourne" post-office was a continuance of this, Enoch Walker, postmaster, until 1830, when it was removed to the Corners, receiving the old name, and Perrin Ross was appointed postmaster.

About 1819, a number of emigrants, mostly from England, settled at what is now Dimock Corners, which they called New Birmingham. Among them was Thomas Bedford, said to have been wealthy, and to have furnished his reputed brother-in-law, Thomas Emerson, the funds to erect the hotel now standing on the corner. A Mr. Hicks opened a store, and a Frenchman by the name of Major, a cabinet-maker and local preacher, also erected a house, and carried on business. After a few years, most of them sold out and left. Mr. Ross, mentioned above, purchased the northeast corner, afterwards owned by Dr. Denison.

Alexander Smith, born near Edinburgh, Scotland, left that country March, 1818, and landed in Philadelphia in May following. He came to Susquehanna County September, 1819, with James Young, Sr., and James Service. The last-named settled near Lathrop's Lakes.

Mr. Smith contracted with J. W. Robinson for eighty acres, a mile east of the Corners. He lived there for some time, then went to Forest Lake, came back to "the Cope place," afterwards was in Bridgewater, and is now spending the evening of his days near his son, Wm. W. Smith, of Montrose. This son and his sister, Christiana, were "the first twins of Dimock."

In his first purchase, Mr. Smith was more fortunate than some of his neighbors who were able to pay for their lands; as those who had paid Robinson were afterwards obliged, with one exception, to pay Wallace or his widow, since the tract, extending nearly to Montrose, was mortgaged to him, and Robinson failed to raise the mortgage. This was due, doubtless, to the long time he allowed the settlers to make their payments. In the mean time, as he could give no valid deed, there was distrust among the settlers, some of whom were threatened with ejectment by Robinson; but, "one morning," it is said, "he found a pail of tar and feathers, and a bag of powder and shot suspended from his door-latch, giving too strong a hint to be disregarded, and within twenty-four hours, he left the township."

Charles Miner says of Mr. Robinson, "we were early and through life, attached friends. He had been on the Wyalusing with Col. Hyde, as surveyor, in 1798. He removed to Wilkes-Barre, where he entered into mercantile business, and married a daughter of the revolutionary veteran, Col. Zeb. Butler. His daughter intermarried with the Hon. H. B. Wright."

Samuel Robinson, father of John W., came from Connecticut quite early, and settled in Auburn, on the farm next west of Ezekiel Lathrop.

Adam Waldie, printer and publisher, came from Hyde, on the Tweed, Scotland, in 1820. His two sisters, contributors to the 'Messenger,' which he afterwards published in Montrose, lived in his family, one mile northwest of Dimock Corners, on the farm now occupied by John Murray. He moved from there to Forest Lake.

In the fall of 1821, Joseph Baker, of Chester Co., father of Judge Baker, visited Susquehanna County, and in a letter to Charles Miner, then an editor in the southern part of the State, he wrote: "We visited John W. Robinson's and Dr. Rose's lands, more than any other, and I think there are twelve or fourteen miles square in Susquehanna Co., of as handsome and good land as I ever saw in the State." He bought between two and three hundred acres of improved land, adjoining the "Four Corners," six miles from Montrose; and moved to the place in the spring of 1822.

The same season, Enoch Walker and son George came from Choconut to the farm now known as Woodbourne. Early in the century, Charles Miner¹ employed men to clear five acres here; and on this clearing, Henry Parke built a house, in which he and his sister resided. It now forms a part of the

¹ He must himself have superintended operations here, as, from a tree of his own planting, a basket of fruit, fifty years later, was presented to him by E. Walker. C. Avery, Esq., remembers that his father, Asahel Avery, cleared "up to the Miner fence," in 1806.

hospitable home of George and Sarah M. Walker. There are one or two small lakes in the vicinity.

Lewis Walker, the great-grandfather of Enoch, emigrated in 1700, from Yorkshire, England, to Chester Co., Pa., and here the latter was born, as were also his father and grandfather. His parents were Joseph and Sarah Walker, members of the Society of Friends. Enoch came from Chester Co., with his children, in April, 1820, to the farm, late the residence of Caleb Carmalt, Lakeside, Choconut; where he remained two years, before removing to Woodbourne. One who spent many months, at different times, under his roof, says:—

“His earliest training was under the judicious care of an excellent Christian mother, whose precepts and example were the abiding rule of his life, and enabled him to endure with great fortitude, many and various trials. When young, he appeared as a minister among Friends; and in 1796, spent some time as a missionary to the Oneida Indians, under the auspices of the Yearly Meeting of Friends; and traveled much in the service of the Gospel, and on business, until the close of a long and active life.

“He was ever a pattern of true hospitality, in word and deed; careful in training his children in strict morality and religion, and ever kind and considerate for the happiness of all under his care and influence. He was active in promoting the settlement of the county with worthy and industrious persons, and always evinced a liberal and forbearing spirit towards every sect and denomination, in the fullest sense of a true ‘Universal Christian Benevolence.’

“He was returning, 11th mo. 8th, 1853, in his 83d year, from one of his accustomed visits of love and duty, to relatives and friends in and near Philadelphia, and had reached the house of Noah Rogers, Waymart, Wayne Co., in expectation of being at Woodbourne the following day. He spent a cheerful evening, and retired to rest—and to sleep the sleep that knows no waking here.” He was buried at Friendsville. ‘The memory of the just is blessed!’

‘Rest from thine earnest labors,
Rest from thy loved employ,
And with His seal and signet,
Enter thy Master's joy!
Through Heaven's uncounted ages,
With love and transport see,
Thy angel-cause advancing
Afar, o'er land and sea.’”

In a short description of Susquehanna Co., given by Enoch Walker in the ‘Register,’ published at Montrose, July, 1833, the following large landholders are mentioned: Heirs of Henry Drinker, Dr. R. H. Rose, Caleb Carmalt, S. Milligan, R. Vaux, J. Lee, J. B. Wallace, T. W. Morris, and others, of Philadelphia; S. Meredith, and — Brownes, of New York. Their lands were then in the care of Judge Wm. Thompson, and Putman Catlin, Great Bend; Wm. Jessup, James C. Biddle, Joshua W. Raynsford, Montrose; Wm. Ward, New Milford; Wm. D. Cope and Geo. Walker, Woodbourne.

Dr. Rose then had 7000 sheep in the county. Montrose had about 500 inhabitants. The houses were about seventy, including two printing-offices, four taverns, and seven stores.

Thomas P. Cope, father of Wm. D., late of Woodbourne, became a landholder in Susquehanna County at an early period of its settlement, purchasing from Henry Drinker (grandfather of the late H. Drinker, of Montrose), 25,000 acres located in Dimock, Springville, Rush, Auburn, and Jessup townships.

He aided in the construction of the Bridgewater and Wilkes-Barre Turnpike, and was a liberal contributor to the First-day (Sunday) schools of the county.

George Walker, upon coming to Woodbourne, opened a small stock of merchandise in the room now his library; and for several years this was the only accommodation of the kind for the people of this vicinity. The post-office then was in the same room. He began his business as surveyor in 1824.

The first merchant at the Corners was Mr. Hicks (previously mentioned), and the next, Richard Stone, 1830-36. His place was purchased by L. H. Woodruff, to whose enterprise the township is indebted for the erection of an academy several years later. He was appointed justice of the peace in 1838, for Springville and Dimock.

After the erection of Dimock township, the post-office, which had been known as "Springville Four Corners," was changed to "Dimock Four Corners," and in January, 1834, John Baker was appointed postmaster in place of Perrin Ross.

Philander Stephens, an early settler of Bridgewater, was identified with the interests of Dimock in his later years, being located on the farm which George W. Lane began to clear in 1808. He was a commissioner and sheriff of the county, and was subsequently chosen representative for Susquehanna and Luzerne Counties in the State Legislature several successive years, where he acquired the reputation of an active and influential member, and was finally twice elected a representative in Congress from this district. His death occurred in July, 1842, in the fifty-fourth year of his age. A. P. Stephens, lately our State representative, is one of his sons.

In 1835, Samuel Barkley was justice of the peace for Dimock. In 1836, the 'Register' mentions Julius Beach, as "an enterprising farmer who has done much for the introduction of the mulberry into the county. He presented to the cabinet of the Montrose Lyceum, a skein of beautiful silk (white); the first silk manufactured in the county."

(The *morus multicaulis* fever was at its height in the county three years later.)

From a newspaper of the period we take the following:—

"Mr. Avery Bolles, of Dimock, in the fall of 1835, procured a kernel of a superior kind of seed wheat, sowed it separately, and in August, 1836, gathered the product and laid it aside. A few days ago he shelled it, counted the kernels, and found them to number 1198."

The same year (1835), William Smith, an Englishman, who lived a little north of Dimock Corners, died, aged seventy-six, and was buried in a grove of trees near the turnpike, which have been sacredly preserved to the stranger's memory. It is on the Oliver Scott place which is now owned by L. H. Woodruff.

In 1840, Dimock sustained the school law.

In 1842, the Elk Lake post-office was established seven miles southwest of Montrose; C. J. Lathrop, postmaster; since which time the two lakes have been more commonly mentioned as one—Elk Lake. The township has several lakes, not half the size of the former, (which covers about 150 acres,) but they add much to the attractiveness of their respective localities. Elk Lake itself has never been sold from the Drinker estate. Young's Pond supplies water for the steam, grist, and saw-mills of Silvanus Tyler.

The mills at Parkevale were built by Hon. B. Parke, at a cost of nearly \$30,000. They have all the latest improvements, and it is said they are not surpassed by any flouring mills in this part of the country. The water-power is unfailing. The pond near is supplied with black bass, to the introduction of which into the county, Mr. Parke is giving attention. In the early times there was a beaver-meadow and a deer-lick on the Meshoppen, in the vicinity of the mills.

Dimock Corners is now a village of about eighty inhabitants. It has a Baptist church, two academies, two dry goods stores, a millinery shop, wagon and blacksmith shops, shoemakers' shops, etc.

The Presbyterian church now building (1871), is on land donated by L. H. Woodruff, Esq. The society was organized about fifteen years ago; that of the Baptists, twenty-five years earlier.

The township has furnished thirteen physicians; about half the number located in the county.

HON. DAVID WILMOT.

David Wilmot, of "Proviso" fame, was born in Bethany, Wayne County, Pennsylvania, and was about eighteen years old when his father, Randall Wilmot, moved into Dimock from Wayne County, about 1832, and located on the top of the hill west of the Corners. The place has since been known as Benjamin McKeeby's, and is now occupied by the widow of John Sawyer. Here Mr. R. Wilmot kept a store for a time, but afterwards removed to the shore of Elk Lake, where H. Spafford now resides, and eventually left the county.

Young Wilmot evinced a love for reading which craved greater facilities for indulgence than his own limited store of books or that of his neighbors could gratify. Fortunately the library at Woodbourne was open to him, with its many volumes; among others those written by the peace-loving, slavery-hating, followers of William Penn. Years afterwards, he referred to the

privilege enjoyed here, as one that influenced his own principles in regard to "human rights," and that indirectly, at least, eventuated in the "Wilmot Proviso."

He spent only his vacations in Dimock, having engaged in the study of law at Wilkes-Barre. He afterwards settled in Towanda, Pennsylvania. Once, while enjoying a vacation sail on Elk Lake, with another youth, he was by some carelessness, 'dumped' into the lake, and was barely rescued from drowning.

The 'Bradford Reporter' gave an extended sketch of Mr. Wilmot soon after his decease, from which the following is taken:—

"In 1844, Mr. Wilmot received the unanimous nomination of the Democracy of the Twelfth Congressional District, composed of the counties of Bradford, Tioga, and Susquehanna, and thereafter known as the "Wilmot district." He was chosen by a large majority, and took his seat at the opening of the twenty-ninth Congress, in December, 1845. The annexation of Texas, which Mr. Wilmot, in unison with the Democratic party of the North, had supported, was consummated in 1845, and was speedily followed by war with Mexico. The 'Wilmot Proviso' provided, that in any territory acquired from Mexico, 'neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall ever exist in any part of the territory, except for crime, etc.'

"The slavery question did not enter prominently into the canvass in this Congressional district, in 1846, at the time of Mr. Wilmot's second election. He received, as usual, the unanimous nomination of his party.

"Having received the nomination at the hands of the Democratic party of the district, in 1850, the pro-slavery branch of the organization set about defeating his return to Congress. Mr. Wilmot at once offered to give way for any person who would represent the principle for which he was contending. Hon. Galusha A. Grow was named by Mr. Wilmot as an acceptable person; and he was accepted and elected.

"Under the provisions of the amendment to the Constitution making the judiciary of the State elective, Mr. Wilmot was chosen President Judge of the Judicial district composed of the counties of Bradford, Sullivan, and Susquehanna, in 1851. He presided until 1857, when he resigned and became the candidate of the Republican party for Governor, and was beaten by William F. Packer, through the treachery of the Conservative and Know-nothing leaders. He was restored to his place upon the bench by appointment—Judge Bullock having occupied the position—and was again chosen to fill the place at the next election.

* * * * *

"The selection of General Cameron as Secretary of War, by President Lincoln, created a vacancy in the United States Senate, to fill which, Mr. Wilmot was elected and took his seat in that body March 18, 1861. He served two years in the Senate. on the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Claims and Pensions, and was succeeded in 1863 by Mr. Buckalew.

"At the conclusion of his senatorial term he was appointed by President Lincoln a Judge of the Court of Claims, which office he held up to the time of his death."

He died at Towanda, March 16, 1868, aged fifty-four.

CHAPTER XVII.

LENOX.

ON petition of Peter Rynearson and others, at the first term of court in Susquehanna County, January, 1813, a view was ordered of that portion of Nicholson separated from Luzerne by the county line, with the intention of erecting it into a township to be called Hillsborough. At April sessions, the same year, Isaac Rynearson and H. Tiffany, Jr., presented the following :—

“We do report that we have layed off that part of Nicholson belonging to Susquehanna County, and a part of Harford township as follows : Beginning where the county line crosses Martin's Creek, it being the southeast corner of that part of Bridgewater belonging to Susquehanna County, then running east on the county line seven miles to the township of Clifford, thence north five miles and three-quarters, thence west six miles and one-quarter to Martin's Creek, thence down said creek to place of beginning.”

The court decreed this a township under the name of Lenox. Slight changes have since been made, one of which gives to the present town of Lathrop the territory on which the Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Railroad is located, except in the extreme northwest corner; and others have taken from Harford small portions, making the north line of Lenox more irregular than that of any other township.

Lenox is drained by the Tunkhannock Creek, the main stream of which passes entirely through the township, entering it in the northeast corner from Gibson after having also passed entirely through the latter. The East Branch comes in from Clifford at Lenoxville, near the southeast corner. It runs a little south of west, and empties into the Tunkhannock at Glenwood. Millard's Brook and Upper and Lower Bell Brooks, with Van Winkle's Branch, are the principal tributaries to the main stream, and those of the East Branch are both numerous and considerable, making Lenox one of the best watered townships in the county. They run among hills beautifully wooded, but not reaching the height of some in Gibson and townships adjoining on the east.

Ponds are numerous but small. The largest is Loomis Lake.

The earliest road was a path up the Tunkhannock, which, taking a straight line, crossed the stream time and again. It was not until January, 1814, that a road was finally granted which, from a point in the north line of Lenox, followed the

Tunkhannock on the west to the south line, and was continued by Luzerne to the Susquehanna.

In 1821, the Milford and Owego turnpike, passing diagonally across the northeastern portion of Lenox, was completed, and the Philadelphia and Great Bend turnpike commenced. The route of the latter lay through Lenox from north to south, in the eastern part.

In 1797, there were at least four settlers in Lenox. Isaac Rynearson was located on the Tunkhannock, where the turnpikes just mentioned afterwards crossed each other, and where he resided until his death, in 1840, at the age of 82. Solomon Millard was on Millard's Brook, at its junction with the Tunkhannock; Isaac Doud was on the East Branch, now Lenoxville; Jesse Collar, and perhaps two or three of those who settled about 1790 on the Hopbottom (now Brooklyn Township), were within the present limits of Lenox.

Mark Hartley, Sr., who had been induced by John Nicholson to join the Hopbottom settlement, May, 1792, removed in 1797 to the farm now occupied by his son, William Hartley, Esq., the latter being then five years of age, and Mark Hartley, Jr., but two years younger. The latter died October 12, 1869. The township of Nicholson at that time covered one-quarter of the area afterwards allotted to Susquehanna County, besides twenty square miles (1×20) below. In 1798, its office-holders resided in widely-separated sections of it, including a Thatcher and Tiffany (from present town of Harford); Potter (from Gibson); Sweet (Herrick); Bartlett and Stevens (now Wyoming County), and Solomon Millard. A year or two later, in addition to some of these, Abel Kent, Asahel Gregory, and Walter Lyon (from what is now Herrick).

In 1798, immense numbers of pigeons encamped along the hills of the Tunkhannock in this section. The circumstance was so remarkable it was remembered and mentioned by Mr. John Doud, sixty years after, at the Pioneer Festival at Montrose, in 1858, though he was but a boy when it occurred.

In 1799, a road was ordered from Robert Corbett's (now Phinney's, New Milford) to Solomon Millard's, Nicholson.

In 1800, Thomas Tiffany and John Marcy were justices of the peace for the township, and in 1801 Ebenezer Stevens was added. He and J. Marcy lived below the line of Susquehanna County as afterwards run.

In the latter year, the number assessed was 132; Asahel Gregory, assessor; John Tyler, assistant.

People then carried their grain to Wilkes-Barre in canoes, and made most of their purchases there. "On their way they were accustomed to blow a horn when nearing each habitation,

that persons desiring groceries, etc., might come to the bank and deliver their orders, which would be attended to, and purchases made by the obliging neighbor and voyager, who announced his return from Wilkes-Barre with the purchases by another blast of his horn. In returning, the canoe was propelled almost the entire length of the Tunkhannock Creek by pushing."

Corn was chiefly pounded in mortars, some of which were hollowed stumps; others were found in rocks, and supposed to have been excavated by the Indians. Pestles of their manufacture, as also arrow-heads and hatchets, were found in the vicinity of Glenwood.

The elections for the district of which this section was then a part were held at a point on the Susquehanna River five miles below Tunkhannock, where Isaac Osterhout (father of our late State Senator), kept a hotel or store.

One pound of maple sugar, then worth twelve cents, could be exchanged at Tunkhannock for four shad, so abundant were they then in the river, though never found at T. now. Persons often suffered from hunger, and children were sometimes seen crying for food. The principal articles of diet were corn mush, and bread made of corn meal, milk, butter, and potatoes; fried doughnuts as a Christmas luxury; pork rarely obtainable, but venison, bear-meat, and wild turkeys in their season abundant, as also many varieties of fishes; speckled trout in all the streams, and some of them very large. In spring, there was little to eat except porridge made of maple-sap and corn meal, and sometimes Johnny-cake, though the latter, sweetened and shortened, was a dish for guests.

One woman, the mother of numerous children who sometimes begged her to give them something different from their usual fare (plain Johnny-cake), used to promise them "*Jimmy-cake*." It differed from their customary bread in name alone, but imagination rendered it a satisfactory dish.

John Robinson, an Irishman, came to the neighborhood from the Hopbottom. His children of the third and fourth generation now reside in the township.

Before 1808, Nicholson had been so reduced by the erection of Bridgewater, Clifford, and Harford townships, that only twenty-three families were left in it, and of these only a few were in the section since named Lenox. They were principally the Rynearsons, Millards, Douds, Bells, Halsteads, and Hartleys.

In 1813, the elections of the township were held with those of Harford, at the house of H. Tiffany. There were then twenty-eight taxables resident in Lenox. The houses were only twenty, the horses thirteen, cows thirty-eight, and the oxen twenty-three. There were in all but three hundred and forty acres of

improved land. The largest tax-payers (actual settlers), were: Solomon Millard, who had a saw-mill; the widow of Mark Hartley, Sr.; Ebenezer Bartlett (not taxed in Susquehanna County the following year); I. Rynearson, Benj. Rider (removed five years later); Michael Halstead, Rollin and Calvin Bell. The highest valuation of property in any of these instances was little over \$1000, and ranged down to \$300. Isaac Doud had a grist-mill. The holders of the unseated land of the township were: John Field, Samuel Meredith, Abraham Hutchins, Ebenezer Parish, James Barnes, Samuel W. Fisher, Zaccheus Collins, Thomas Stewardson,¹ Donald and C. Bell. Within two years the purchasers of land had increased, and, among actual settlers, were: Amos Payne, Richard McNamara, William Buchannon, John Conrad, Nathan Tiffany (died 1828), and Asaph Fuller. A number of the sons of the first settlers came of age about this time, and appear on the tax-list. Among these were: William Hartley, Okey Rynearson, Henry Millard, James Robinson, Isaiah Halstead; and, a little later, Mark Hartley, Jr., John Doud, Aaron Rynearson, and Jacob Quick, Jr.

In 1817, Sol. Millard erected his grist-mill on the Tunkhannock. His saw-mill, distillery, and blacksmith shop were on what has long been called Millard's Brook.

Before December, 1818, the number of houses had doubled, lacking one. The "unseated land"-owners included the names of several residents of Montrose, viz.: I. Post, A. Howell, H. Drinker, A. H. Read, and N. Raynor, who became owners, probably, by payment of taxes. Among settlers were: Nathaniel Truesdell, Orange Whitney (removed in 1827), Oliver Wetherby, and Charles Webster.

In 1818, elections for Lenox and Harford were held at the house of Jacob Blake, in Harford.

In 1820, William Hartley was town clerk.

During the next five years about twenty taxables appear to have been added to the settlement.

In 1825, Benajah Millard had possession of his father's mills, but removed within a few years, selling out to James Coil, who in 1830 paid the highest tax levied on a resident. A third grist-mill (Truesdell's) accommodated the people in 1825, and Wm. Hartley had a saw-mill.

Luther Loomis settled about this time near the lake that bears his name, and of which the outlet is Millard's Brook. Soon after, John Bailey, a wagon-maker, and Nathaniel and Rial Tower, Rhodes Berry, and Nathan Foot were here. Allen M'Donald had a grist-mill prior to 1827. Nathaniel Tower was

¹ One of the executors of Henry Drinker, the elder.

a Revolutionary soldier and pensioner; he died in 1836, aged eighty-eight.

In 1827 Asa Dimock came to Lenox, from Dundaff, to which place he had removed from what is now Herrick, on the Great Bend and Coshecton turnpike, in 1818; having settled in that vicinity in 1807.

He had been one of the original trustees or commissioners of Susquehanna County, appointed by the Assembly of Pennsylvania, and had ever been an active man in affairs connected with township or county. His son Shubael, now a resident of Avoca, Wis., accompanied him to Lenox.

At this time the township was strongly democratic in politics. During one of the campaigns in which Andrew Jackson was a candidate for the presidency, the Lenox election was held at his house, when he gave notice that he had a keg of whiskey which he would open for those in attendance after the election, provided no vote was cast against Jackson. Either all the voters were democrats, or the temptation was too strong for their principles; for Jackson received every vote, and the whiskey was opened.

His sons were: Asa, Jr., Shubael, and Warren. A daughter (Mrs. Rhodes Berry) died in 1871, aged nearly seventy-two. He died in Lenox late in 1833, aged sixty-two.

Prior to December, 1828, Wm. Jackson had a store and tavern at Lenox Corners, or the Junction, as it is sometimes termed. Chas. Chandler, Jr., came from Gibson. Benajah Millard also kept tavern a short time. Chas. H. Miller had "a stand" in 1831. William Hartley's tax was the largest of any in 1832.

In 1833 there were just four times as many houses in Lenox as there were twenty years earlier, and there were over one thousand acres of improved land.

About this time Okey Rynearson kept a tavern; Woodbury S. Wilbur purchased from James Coil, Jr., the old mills of Solomon Millard; the old farm of the latter was purchased in 1834 by Mrs. Elizabeth Grow and sons.

Charles Chandler, Jr., and William Hartley were appointed justices of the peace about this time. The former was afterwards elected State representative for this county, and died at Harrisburg, of smallpox, during the session of legislature in the spring of 1840.

In 1842 C. W. Conrad began blacksmithing in the building that was formerly Charles Miller's old barn. At first people furnished their own iron for horse-shoes, or whatever they wished made at his shop, and paid him in produce. Oats he received at eighteen cents per bushel, but to find a market for them he had to hire a team and go to Carbondale, where he sold

them at an advance of two cents on the bushel, and was glad enough to convert them into cash at that price. From this small beginning his establishment came to be the most extensive of its kind in the county, through the business furnished him by George H. Giddings,¹ who required mule-shoes for the mail-route across Texas to El Paso, of which he was the contractor; and by the well-known Ben Holliday, on the great overland route to California.

Hand-power gave place to steam; and to wooden turning-lathes were added engine lathes for finishing machinery. The capital invested was not less than \$6000 before the fire which consumed the shop and contents, together with barn and wagon-shop adjoining, on the night of June 28, 1869. In the autumn of the same year they were rebuilt on a larger scale than before the fire.

The Glenwood hotel was built in 1850 by the Grow brothers, who sold it to A. F. Snover, its proprietor for a long time, who was succeeded by V. Cafferty. This building was burned March 18, 1870. It was an inviting retreat for summer wanderers in search of comfort and rest. A pleasant *glen*, indeed, they found it—shut in by the high green hills that cast their shadows on the Tunkhannock, which at this point is spanned by a bridge. A little above is "Croquet" Island. Fine trout are, or were, found in this vicinity.

The former pleasant residence of Wm. Hartley, Esq., about a quarter of a mile above, was just within sight, on the point of land formed by the junction of the east branch with the main stream, but fire laid this low some years ago.

In the other direction in the seeming northern limit of the glen is the "old homestead" of the Grows, a part of which, in the early settlement of the town, was the home of Solomon Millard. Opposite is the post-office now in charge of E. R. Grow. It was established in 1835, under the name of *Millardsville*, Woodbury S. Wilbur, postmaster.

A little lower the "Glenwood mills" are seen, a rebuild by F. P. Grow, of Millard's grist-mill, and the new residence of F. P. Grow, having in its rear the remains of the old tavern of Charles Miller, which had the unique sign of "LIVE AND LET LIVE."

In 1834 Charles Chandler's was the only *painted* house in all Lenox. A year or two later, Mr. Hartley erected the house mentioned above, and painted it.

The tannery of Schultz, Eaton & Co. was erected at Glenwood the same year as the hotel, at a cost of \$60,000. This was destroyed by fire and rebuilt in 1857. It turns out 40,000 sides

¹ A native of Susquehanna County, and a son of the late James Giddings of Herrick.

of leather per year. Its present proprietors are Black, Burhaus & Clearwater.

Asa Eaton, one of the original firm, united seemingly diverse tastes. the one inducing him in 1856 to erect a church, and the other in 1858 to provide a race-course for his own and others' enjoyment. Fast horses were his recreation, and before the "course" was laid out he had cleared the highway for the distance of a mile (between the tannery and the hotel), of every stone or unevenness that could retard a horse's speed or lessen the comfort of a rider. In the fall of 1861 he conceived the idea of assembling the fast horses and fine riders of the county to try the race-course on his beautiful flat by the margin of the Tunkhannock. The occasion was also dignified by the inauguration of the Glenwood Fair, which was under the management of an agricultural society of which F. P. Grow was president and Asa Eaton treasurer. The fair was held in October three years in succession, when it was superseded by the one at Nicholson, five miles below.

Lenox has had two public libraries (miscellaneous), one of which is still in existence in West Lenox; the other, at Glenwood, has been for several years among the things that were. During the war the township and Soldiers' Aid Society contributed nobly of men and means to preserve the Union.

The township continued strongly democratic until the excitement occasioned by the "Kansas-Nebraska Bill." In the fall of 1856 a majority of votes against the democratic ticket was cast for the first time. A banner was presented to Lenox by the ladies of Montrose, as a prize to the township which gave the greatest increase of republican votes at the November election over the election of the previous month.

SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES.

The first school in the vicinity of Glenwood, and probably in all Lenox, was taught about 1804 by Miss Molly Post, in a barn belonging to John Marcy,¹ whose farm was partly in Susquehanna County, though his residence was just below the line, in Luzerne, now Wyoming County. The barn was soon needed to store the hay of that season, and then a large tree was selected as a shelter for the scholars and teacher till the close of the term.

It was in one of her schools that a boy showed his intelligent comprehension of the word "bed." On being told to spell it, he began: "B-ah, e-ah, d-ah," and, being unable to pronounce it,

¹ His farm was the first below the Glenwood hotel property. Mr. Marcy was from Tunkhannock, and originally from Dutchess County, N. Y. He was father-in-law of William Hartley, Esq.

his teacher, thinking to aid him, asked what he slept on; when he replied, "Now I know! *sheepskin*."

The first winter school which can be recalled by one of Lenox's oldest residents, was taught by a man who was unable to prove a sum in addition; he was discharged, and another employed who finished the term, but was then obliged to engage the services of one of his pupils to write his bill for teaching, being incompetent to do it himself.

Barns were also used as places for public worship. School-houses were afterwards, and for a long time, considered fitting temples for praise as well as learning. But these, until within a very few years, were poor at best. At present some ambition to improve in this direction is apparent.

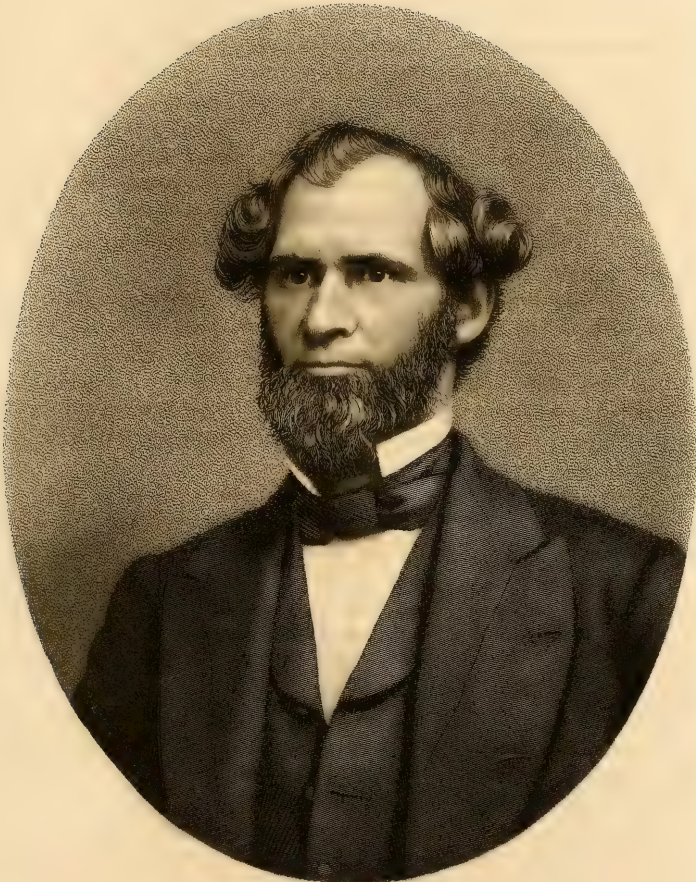
But churches have supplanted their use as houses of worship. At Lenoxville there is a Methodist church. There is a Baptist church at "Tower's settlement," another at Loomis' Lake, and still another, built by Mr. Asa Eaton, near the tannery. In all but the latter, religious societies are regularly organized. Mr. Eaton, himself a Baptist, built the church when there were none in the vicinity to join him, making it free to all denominations. It is private property, and the use of it is granted to the Good Templars, and for lectures, etc. The first Baptist Society was recognized by the Abington Baptist Association, December, 1830. Levi M. Mack was the pastor in 1831, and possibly the year previous. Rev. Charles Miller, of Clifford, occasionally preached for them. Mr. George W. Schofield was "supply" for a time, or until Deacon Rial Tower was licensed, and in 1844 ordained pastor.

There are three Good Templars' lodges in the township—one at Glenwood, one at Lenoxville, and the other at West Lenox; and together they have had about 250 members. The number is now somewhat diminished.

The Sons of Temperance had formerly a division in Lenox.

Sabbath-schools have been held at different times in Glenwood under various superintendents. One was conducted by Obadiah Mills and family in his own house with success. The present school was begun in 1860 by Mrs. Fred. P. Grow with five pupils, in her own room, while a boarder at the hotel in Glenwood.

The highest number in attendance since then has been 125, and there are now several assistant teachers, the school being held in a neat chapel which Mr. Grow has prepared expressly for this purpose. He took for a nucleus the old district school-house in which his brother, the Hon. G. A. Grow, first exercised his talent for debate. An addition of 20 feet to the length of the building has been made, but the original floor-boards, scoured to a becoming whiteness, retain their places; while the



Engraved by Emily Sartain Phila

Galusha A. Grow

boards with which it was ceiled are converted into comfortable seats. Plaster and paint inside, and paint and shutters outside, may partly disguise the old structure, but they give it a fitting dress for its new and sacred use.

Of the success of the superintendent in gaining the confidence of the parents whose children are her pupils, an anecdote is told which will bear repeating. A man who had been greatly opposed to having his children attend the school, became convinced at last of the benefit they had derived from it. Aroused to a sense of gratitude, before leaving the place he resorted to Mrs. G. to express it, which he did by saying, "It's the *d—dest best* Sunday-school I ever see!"

One of Miss N. G.'s class was not the dullest pupil, though from his familiarity with his father's mill he drew his own inference when his teacher told him he was "made of dust." The next Sabbath, when he was asked the question, "Of what are you made?" he promptly replied, "of *saw-dust*!"

Miss Carrie Hartley, a former pupil and teacher in this school, was for two years a missionary in Madura, India.

HON. G. A. GROW.

Galusha A. Grow was born in Ashford, now Eastford, Windham County, Conn., and in May 1834, at the age of ten years, came from Voluntown of the same county, to Susquehanna County, Penna., with his widowed mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Grow. Her husband, Mr. Joseph Grow, had died some years previous, leaving her with six children—the oldest a daughter but fourteen years old, and the youngest a babe, also a daughter; her four sons, Edwin, Frederick, Samuel, and Galusha, were between them in age, in the order of their names as here given. Mrs. Grow brought to Susquehanna County only her oldest son, the youngest daughter, and Galusha. Her eldest daughter, then recently married, was going to meet her husband who had bought land in Luzerne County just below Dundaff. They were accompanied by Samuel A. Newton, who afterwards bought in Brooklyn, and Charles Barstow, who bought the hotel and farm at Crystal Lake. Mrs. Grow bought the farm in Lenox formerly owned by Solomon Millard. The land was then in a poor state of cultivation, and the whole 440 acres were obtained for \$1300. A yoke of oxen and one cow constituted the stock on the farm that year, and a field of oats and a few acres of corn were the result of the united labors of Edwin and the oxen driven by Galusha. The pigeons that year rested on Elk Hill,¹ and were very destructive to the farmers' oats and corn. As Galusha was then too young to work, he was assigned a post upon the ridge of a barn, which then stood between the corn-field and the oats, that he might with two small sticks rattle upon the roof and scare off the pigeons. So he spent the days, after the corn came up till it was too large for the pigeons to disturb. He was obliged to be up early in the morning, and to carry his dinner with him, as the pigeons were so numerous they would destroy a whole field in a very short time. Imagination sees the embryo Speaker of Congress perched on that barn-roof no less happy and no less dignified—since his post

¹ *The Volunteer* of that season had a paragraph respecting the eastern part of the county: "Nine miles in length and two in width—every foot of which, and almost every tree and branch of which, are occupied by pigeons."

The beech-nuts were the attraction.

was one of essential service—than in the palmy days when he occupied the third seat in the nation.

The children had been scattered among relatives after the death of their father until Mrs. Grow's residence at Lenox ; but here they were all eventually gathered in one family, and remained such for years after attaining their majority and engaging in business. The mother died in 1864, and is remembered by her neighbors as a woman of uncommon worth, and deserving of more than an ordinary tribute.

During the winter of 1836-'37, and that of '37-'38, Galusha was at school in the old school-house, which has recently been converted into a neat chapel for the use of Mrs. F. P. Grow's Sabbath-school. In that building there was then occasionally an old-fashioned spelling-school—"choosing sides" between the scholars and those of the next district, which extended as far down as Bacon's. Here, too, when he was not yet fourteen years old, he took an active part in the Debating Society, which was held alternately in each of those districts, for which he prepared himself on his walks twice a day to and from foddering cattle, about one mile from the house.

Assisting his brother in the small country store originally established by Mrs. Grow's energy, on the present site of the Glenwood post-office, and accompanying him in the spring in rafting lumber down the Susquehanna to Port Deposit, Md., Galusha found occupation for seasons when not in school until he entered Franklin Academy at Harford, in the spring of 1838. He and his younger sister Elizabeth (afterwards the wife of Hon. J. Everett Streeter) then had rooms a mile from the academy at Mrs. Farrar's, where they boarded themselves ; but the winter following, his sister not being with him, he roomed in the Institution, and boarded, as one of a club, with Mrs. Walker, mother of the present Governor of Virginia.

Preston Richardson was then Principal, but at his death, soon after, the Rev. Willard Richardson succeeded him, and was Mr. Grow's teacher until he left, in 1840, for Amherst College. His first political speech was made in his senior year at Amherst, in 1844. He graduated as stated in the 'Men of Our Day,' "with high honors in his class, and with the reputation of being a ready debater, and a fine extemporaneous speaker." He commenced studying law with Hon. F. B. Streeter in the winter of 1845, and was admitted to the bar of Susquehanna County April 19th, 1847.

He was law-partner of Hon. David Wilmot at Towanda, 1848-49 ; but his health then demanding a resort to out-door pursuits, he spent some time in surveying, peeling bark, working on the farm, etc. In the fall of 1850 he received the unanimous nomination for the State Legislature by the Democratic Convention of the county, which he declined.

The same season, the Hon. David Wilmot withdrew as a candidate for Congress in the 12th District, with the understanding that the free-soil party would support Mr. Grow, hitherto unknown outside of the county. The result was the election of Mr. Grow, just one week after his nomination, by a majority of 1264 over the Republican candidate, John C. Adams, of Bradford. He took his seat December, 1851, at the time but 26 years old—the youngest member of Congress.

In 1852 his majority was 7500, and at the next election the vote was unanimous, owing to his opposition to the Kansas-Nebraska bill. From the date of the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, Mr. Grow severed his connection with the Democratic party ; still he continued to represent the Wilmot District until the 4th of March, 1863. His defeat at the election the previous fall was owing to the Congressional apportionment which united Susquehanna County with Luzerne, thus giving a preponderating Democratic vote.

Mr. Grow's "maiden speech" in Congress was reported as among the ablest speeches in behalf of the Homestead Bill—a measure he persistently brought forward every Congress for ten years, when he had at last the satisfaction of signing the law as Speaker of the House of Representatives.

His passage-at-arms with Keitt, of South Carolina, is yet fresh in the minds of many, as a timely and appropriate answer to former Southern insolence.

July 4th, 1861, he was elected Speaker of the House of Representatives, and "at the close of his term received a UNANIMOUS vote of thanks, which was the first unanimous vote that had been given by that body to any Speaker in many years."

He was drafted under the first draft, and, although exempted by the board of examination as unfit for military duty, he still furnished a substitute.

Mr. Grow's public career has been admirably summed up in 'The Men of Our Day,' as "marked by a persistent advocacy of free homesteads, free territory, human freedom, cheap postage, and indeed every measure by which the people were to be made wiser, purer, and happier."

In 1868, the popular voice in Northern Pennsylvania, and most of the Republican press of the State, proposed Mr. Grow as successor to Mr. Buckalew in the U. S. Senate, and by many "his nomination as the Republican candidate for Governor would be accepted with great cordiality and enthusiasm."

Mr. Grow is now (1872) at the South, and President of the Houston and Great Northern Railroad of Texas.

No man of Susquehanna County has ever been so widely known to statesmen at home and abroad; nor is it probable that, very soon, any combination of circumstances will place another of our citizens more prominently before the public.

For the following list of trees, shrubs, and plants found in Lenox, with other items, the compiler is indebted to a lady of the township:—

Among trees are found the beech; birch (black and yellow); basswood (the American lime or linden); butternut, or white walnut; button-wood, or American plane-tree; chestnut; cherry (black, choke, and red); the slippery elm; hemlock; hickory (bitter-nut and small-fruited); iron-wood; maple (hard and soft); oak (black and white); pine (white); white poplar, or American aspen; sumach (smooth and poison); tulip-tree, or whitewood; willow; witch-hazel; and walnut.

Among shrubs and plants, the mountain currant; cranberry; dogwood; elder (common and panicked); frost-grape; gooseberry; hazel; mountain-laurel; American rose-bay; raspberry (red and black); wild rose; sarsaparilla; sassafras; scouring-rush; thorn; thistle (Canada and common); whortleberry; trailing arbutus; anemone; spring-beauty; pink azalea, or May-apple; adder's tongue; artichoke; bloodroot; boneset; blue-flag; blue-eyed grass; bulrushes; butter-cup; burdock; cat-tail; catnip; celandine; checkerberry, or wintergreen; chickweed; white clover; several varieties of club-moss; comfrey; cotton-thistle; cowslip; crane's-bill; cut-grass; red columbine; dandelion; ox-eyed daisy; yellow dock; dodder; "Dutchman's breeches"; several varieties of ferns, among them the maiden's hair, and walking fern; golden-rod; goldthread; Indian-pipe; June-berry; lilies (meadow, white pond and yellow pond); live-forever; high and low mallows; milk-weed; mullein; many varieties of moss; stinging nettle; wild parsnip; partridge-berry; pennyroyal; peppermint pickerel-weed; common plantain; poison-ivy; poke; prince's pine; purslain; fringed polygala; Solomon's seal (one variety); side-saddle flower; varieties of sorrel; spearmint; strawberry; tansey; trillium (white, pink, and dull red); violets (deep and light blue, and white); water-cress.

The farms of this township produce wheat of excellent quality on the high grounds; with oats, corn, potatoes, rye, buckwheat, and clover. Of fruit there are apples, pears, quinces, grapes, and peaches, though the latter are of a very poor quality, and not abundant. In seasons of unusual length, dryness, and heat, sweet potatoes of very excellent quality have been grown in the valleys of Lenox.

In early times raccoons were more numerous than animals of any other kind; but deer, black bears, and wolves were here in great numbers. There were also panthers, wildcats, beavers, skunks, woodchucks, squirrels (black, red, gray, and chipmunks); mink, muskrats, marten, etc. As late as December, 1869, a wildcat was shot in Lenox. Driven by dogs, it had taken shelter in a tree.

Bee-trees were of great value; and perhaps few were more profitable than one recently found in the township, from which was taken 256 lbs. of honey.

CHAPTER XVIII.

AUBURN.

WHEN Susquehanna County was set off from Luzerne by act of legislature in 1810, the southern line divided the township of Braintrim, and by decree of court, April, 1814, the portion above the line—about six miles by eight—received the name of Auburn. This name had been given by Connecticut surveyors to a section including part of this township, while on Pennsylvania records it had until this time only the former. With the exception of Great Bend it is the only township of our county which retains its original dimensions.

It is bounded on the north by the township of Rush, on the east by Dimock and Springville, on the south by the county of Wyoming, and on the west by that of Bradford, thus being the southwestern township of Susquehanna County.

The Susquehanna River comes at one point within two and a half miles of its southern border.

Tuscarora Creek runs four and a half miles across the northwestern part of Auburn. The Pochuck in the western, the Little Meshoppen near the center, and the west branch of the Meshoppen (Riley Creek), have their sources within the township. The middle branch of the Meshoppen crosses the southeast corner. The Little Meshoppen unites with the main stream a few rods from its mouth.

The lakes of Auburn are few and small, none larger than ordinary mill-ponds, except the one crossed by the northern line of the township, Kinney's Pond, which is one mile in length and from one-quarter to one-half mile in width.

The general surface is rolling or hilly, but nearly every acre is tillable. The soil is a clayey loam.

There are various stone-quarries in the township. The strata of a quarry about half a mile south of Auburn Corners are from half an inch to several inches in thickness, without the dip so common to the rocks of this region, but horizontal, with the

appearance of having been deposited in quiet waters, and not disturbed by any subsequent upheaval. Marine shells are occasionally found imbedded between the layers, also vegetable remains or their impressions.¹ Stone has been drawn from this quarry for building purposes, both to Wilkes-Barre and Montrose, though in the latter case it might appear like "taking coals to Newcastle."

The township has four post-offices, viz., Auburn Four Corners, Auburn Center, South Auburn, and West Auburn, or New Laceyville, and these points are so many centers of business, the last mentioned being the portion of the township first settled. This was in the vicinity of the upper branch of the Tuscarora Creek, which rises in Kinney's Pond.

SETTLEMENT.

In 1797, Lyman Kinney, from Litchfield County, Conn., made a clearing on the place now owned by Hamlet Hill; it was then a part of the 3000 acres which his father Daniel had bought under a Connecticut title. As this proved defective, Lyman, prior to 1814, sold his improvements to John and Thomas Morley, and left. The Pennsylvania title was held by Henry Drinker, of Philadelphia, who transferred it to Thos. P. Cope, of the same city.

Lloyd Goodsell, it is asserted, was the first settler in East Auburn; his location is now occupied by Frederick Russell. His wife was a daughter of Isaac Bronson, of Rush.

Myron Kasson has been supposed by some to be the "first to attack the unbroken forest of Auburn, lying out in the woods at night, not knowing of a human being within ten miles of him." Mr. Miner mentions both in his list of the settlers here in 1799. Both left for the East in the fall.

Ezekiel Avery, in 1800, came from Connecticut with Benajah Frink, then single, and made a clearing northwest of the corners (where Mr. Linaberry now lives), and was the first who *wintered* in Auburn. His wife the next spring brought in the family; on the journey one of the horses was lost, and they had to diminish their means of support by the purchase of another. His sons were David and George.

William Frink, father of Benajah, came this year, and began a clearing on the hill between the latter and Mr. Avery, and afterwards located here with his family. He died about 1829. His son William was but a lad when he came to Auburn.

Benajah Frink built the first frame house upon the site of the one now occupied by Mrs. Jacob Titman; he also built the first

¹ A variety of these, as also of Indian relics found in the vicinity, are now in the possession of J. B. Beardsley.

cider-mill. He split pine logs and shaved them to make clapboards. He married, February, 1805, the youngest daughter of Isaac Hancock, of Rush, and his sons were, Orrin, Tracy, Isaac, and William. He died August, 1851. His widow is living in New Milford, after having spent sixty-one years in Auburn. She states that Mr. Kasson came in a year later than Mr. Goodsell, and that he boarded with the latter. She remembers hearing at the time that Mr. G., being out of meal, went to get his grain ground, and was gone two or three days, during which the family lived on squash and milk. [It is possible Mrs. F. mistakes Mr. Kasson's second coming for the first; he had left the town when she came to it.]

According to the recollection of Mr. Paul Overfield, of Braintrim, Solomon Kinney came, in 1800, to the farm now occupied by J. Benscoter, two and a half miles northwest of Auburn Center. He was the first in that vicinity. It is said that, after harvesting a fine crop of wheat, he lost the whole by fire communicated to it from a fallow which he was burning, and from that to his house. He saved a few effects, and with his wife left the country never to return.

Eldad Bronson and son Amos came to the town about 1801, from Connecticut.

John Passmore, then a minor, came from Rhode Island, and took up land near the Corners, under a Connecticut title, but did not locate until five years later.

Cyril Peck, Ezekiel and Asa Lathrop were considered in the neighborhood, though located beyond the township lines.

Hiram Carter and Thomas Wheeler were the first settlers in South Auburn, the former on the place now owned by Rufus J. Carter, and the latter on the one now owned by E. O. Dunlap. Both came in June, 1805, from Black Walnut, in Braintrim, near Joshua Keeney's.¹ The sons of Hiram Carter were Jonas, Theron, Samuel, and Daniel.

Chester Adams must have come to Mr. Kasson's place at Auburn Corners prior to 1805, as at that date Mr. K. was on the farm at Springville, which Mr. Adams sold him in exchange for that at the Corners.

His sons were Chester and Elijah.

The sons of Thomas Morley were, Ambrose, John, Thomas (representative 1843-44), and Eben. P.

Eli Billings settled about 1805, on the Tuscarora Creek, at what is called New Laceyville. He had a son Eli, who made

¹ To prevent confusion, it may be well to state there were three distinct families in old Braintrim whose names are so similar as to cause mistakes. Capt. Joshua Keeney and Capt. Joseph Kinny were outside of Susquehanna County; Deacon Daniel Kinney, father of Lyman Kinney, as above, and Solomon Kinney of another family.

the first clearing where Elisha Cogswell now lives, and who died in 1815. Eli Billings, Sen., in 1839, sold to David Lacey. When he came to the place there was a man named Session on the farm, now owned by Rev. Bela Cogswell (over the line in Bradford County), and one George Gamble where Oliver Warner now lives; and these were the only families between him and Abiel Keeney's saw-mill on the Tuscarora, two miles above Skinner's Eddy. The site of this saw-mill, some time between 1790 and 1800, was occupied by a saw and grist-mill, built by Elihu Hall.

Nathaniel, second son of Eli Billings, made the first clearing and put up a log house on what is known as "the James farm."

Hosea, the third son, had two sons, Eli and Nathaniel. Joseph and Henry Billings were sons of Eli senior. Most of the family moved to the West, and none are now in Auburn.

William Cooley, who married a daughter of Joshua Keeney, came in a year or two after H. Carter and Wheeler, and settled near the present site of Carlin's mills, on the Little Meshoppen, where his widow still resides. Robert, Stephen, William, and Daniel Cooley were brothers.

In 1806, John Passmore returned, made a clearing, and built a cabin at Auburn Corners. Feb. 1807, he married Elizabeth Overfield of Braintrim. He was commissioned the first justice of the peace in 1816, by Gov. Snyder, for Auburn, Rush, and Middletown. He had four sons, Norman, John, Nicholas, and Joseph, and seven daughters. He died March 12th, 1835, aged 53 years.

In 1807, John Riley came to the place still known as his, southwest of the Corners; and a road was laid out from the river to Cooley's. This road was afterwards extended farther north, as appears by the court record:—

Luzerne County, ss., November session, 1808. The petition of Joshua Keeny and others was read, praying for viewers to be appointed to view and lay out a road from or near William Cooley's, on Little Meshoppen, to intersect a road now laid out near Lathrop's mill, a distance of about eight miles; wherefore the court appoint Henry Chapman, Eleazar Gaylord, Thomas Wheeler, Asa Lathrop, Myron Kasson, and Zophar Blakesly to view the ground proposed for said road.

Many were the privations endured among the early settlers; but, to some, there was none greater than the absence of their former privileges of religious worship. About 1808, Eld. Davis Dimock came to this little community and baptized a few of its members. Meetings for prayer were held at Ezekiel Lathrop's, a mile south of the Lakes, in Dimock.

David Avery, oldest son of Ezekiel, and his sister, now Mrs. Jonathan Vaughn, used to come to the "Middle school-house" in Bridgewater (just below the south line of Montrose), a dis-

tance of twelve miles, to hear Eld. Dimock preach. She rode on horseback, and her brother walked beside her; they could not have come in a wagon if they had had one. When David went to Harris' mill, about nine miles from home, he frequently spent the night, in returning, at George Mowry's, above the Lakes; and, so scarce then was meal, Mrs. M. would take some from his sack to provide him a supper. He went West 25 years ago.

There was little grass; cattle browsed on young brush, and hogs were "turned out to beech-nuts" In common with others in all this section, the first settlers of Auburn purchased their lands under the Connecticut title, and many paid their money, in good faith, to the agents of the Connecticut claims. After the final legal decision made in favor of the Pennsylvania title, some who had paid their money, and toiled hard to secure a home, gave up in despair and left the country.

Occasionally, additions were made to those who remained, and in 1813, the first assessment of the township (still called Braintrim) was made by the commissioners of Susquehanna Co. The tax-payers were: Chester Adams, Ezekiel and David Avery, Eli Billings, Eldad Bronson, Amos Bronson, Hiram Carter, William and Stephen Cooley, Benajah Frink, Philip and George Haverly, Abraham Lott, Thomas Morley, John Oakley, John Passmore, Comfort Penney, John Riley, John Ross, and Thomas Wheeler.

In 1814, James Hines appears to have had the farm of John Ross, and Daniel Sterling that of Comfort Penny, who had removed.

Robert Dunlap, Simeon Green, Larry Dunmore, Jesse and Josiah Wakefield were among the new-comers, as also in 1815 were Elias and Amos Bennett, Lawrence Meacham, Palmer Guile, and James B. Turrel. The last named bought of Lloyd Goodsell.

In 1816, Philonus Beardsley bought a farm of John Passmore, the same now occupied by J. B. Beardsley, his son. He brought his family from Litchfield Co., Conn., the following year. His oldest son, A. Beardsley, Esq., of Springville, remained in Auburn until 1829. Charles, the second son, afterwards resided in Montrose, and later, established an extensive carriage manufactory in New York city.

Mr. P. Beardsley resided in Auburn until his death, early in 1833.

In 1817, John Oakley's place was occupied by Charles Ashley. Julius Coggsell was in Auburn this year; also Thomas W. James, Hiram Whipple, and Solomon Dimmock.

Jabez Sumner and others, who may have come a year or two

earlier. [In taking the tax list for a guide the compiler is not sure of the precise year of arrival.]

In 1818, Curtis Russel; in 1819, Edward Dawson, John and Waltrin Love.

The first town meeting on record was in 1819. Philonus Beardsley was then elected town clerk; Elias Bennett and George Harding, supervisors; Curtis Russel and Hiram Whipple, constables; C. Adams, B. Frink, and E. Bennett, freeholders; John Passmore and John Riley, poor-masters.

In 1820, there were thirty voters in the township.

During the next five years, Francis Pepper (from Rush), David Taylor, Daniel Gregory, George and Simeon Evans, Samuel Tewksbury, and Milton Harris had arrived. The last named and S. Evans had saw-mills.

In 1826, and for five or six years following, Jonathan Kellogg, a cabinetmaker, Joseph Carlin (where he and his sons now live), Robert Manning, Thomas Risley, Caldwell McMicken, Richard Stone, William Sherwood, Elisha Coggsell, Jacob Low, Alden H. Seeley, and Oliver C. Roberts, besides the sons of several early settlers and many temporary residents, appear among the taxables. William Overfield made the first clearing on Shannon Hill in 1832. We extract from a newspaper the following:—

“Elisha Coggsell first settled on Tuscarora Creek, two and a half miles below New Laceyville, in 1815, was married in 1816, remained there until the spring of 1833, when he removed to Auburn, where he and his wife still reside.

“He caught in one season seven bears and five wolves. Another time, while on a hill near by, two cubs were discovered; one was shot. With the first cry of pain, the dam sprang from some bushes to its side. Hastily smelling the wound and divining the cause, she rushed with headlong fury on the aggressor, who, meanwhile, was hastily reloading his gun, and when she had nearly reached him, a bullet stopped her. Mr. C. completed his eightieth year, April 18, 1872. He has been class-leader in the M. E. church nearly half a century, and still walks to church nearly a mile, almost always attending evening meetings.”

In 1832, it was proposed to take out Auburn and Springville to form part of a new county.

Forty years ago chopping and clearing was the order of the day. The inhabitants were largely in debt for their lands, and it was no easy matter to do the clearing, put up their buildings, and support their families, and lift the debt to Cope and Drinker (the principal landholders in Auburn), while rye and corn sold at less than fifty cents, and wheat scarcely a dollar a bushel, and good two-year old cattle at \$8 or \$10 per head.

Thirty years ago the ‘Spectator,’ June 20th, stated, “In the southwest part of Auburn may be seen a beautiful sight, to wit, seventy acres of fine winter wheat in one field.”

The Auburn people claim that theirs is the best producing township in the county, and instances are given which give some color to their claim.

John Tewksbury raised a stalk of buckwheat in 1869 which measured six feet and three-fourths of an inch in height; and of several specimen of oats raised by him, the *heads* were two feet and a half long. In South Auburn, Samuel Tewksbury has on his farm a heifer which when one year, one month, and eleven days old, weighed 650 pounds, and her calf, then two days old, weighed 42 pounds. The young farmers are not a whit behind the old in vigor, if we may judge by the fact that F. S——, of the same township, raked 1370 sheaves of rye in ten hours one August day of 1869.

When Eli Billings came to West Auburn, neighbors were remote, no roads, no church, no schools, no mills. Black's mill, now Lewis's, below Merryall's, on the Wyalusing, was the nearest. A few marked trees guided the traveler to it, and a few logs and bushes were cleared away so that a horse could carry a grist on his back.

Hosea Billings, another son of the pioneer, relates the following:—

"Well do I remember when a lad my father sent me to mill, and, as it was late when I got my grist and started for home, night overtook me on my way. When about one mile from home my horse stopped, and then I saw before me what looked like balls of fire—probably the eyes of a wolf. It would not give the path, so I had to turn out and go around through the woods. I lost my hat getting through the brush, and went home bare-headed." He adds: "If I could see you I would give you some idea how much the first settlers had to undergo."

Lawrence Meacham came from New Hampshire and settled in the southeastern part of Auburn in 1815. His daughter says:—

"The first night he stayed on his place was in January, and the snow was two or three feet deep. He slept on hemlock boughs beside a fire which kept himself and a colored man from freezing. In the morning they began chopping, but the timber was so frozen it broke their axes. They left, and father did not return till the next spring. In two or three years he moved his family to the little clearing remote from roads and neighbors, and into a log-cabin with a blanket for the door. Thick woods, howling wolves, deer, wildcats, and wild-turkeys were at that time in abundance. I have heard my mother say, 'I was so lonesome I was glad to see even a hunter's dog come along.'

"My father had often to be out late at night, when on his journeys for provisions, and mother was alone in the cabin with only a little boy; while from an hour before sunset until sunrise the next morning, the wolves kept up a constant howling up and down the creek, which passes within half a mile of the door, and many a time was this so distinct as to seem within the clearing. Twice father had his little flock of sheep killed by them."

The construction of a log-cabin has well been styled "one of the pioneer arts;" and lest it should become also one of the *lost* ones, the following directions are given:—

"Cut your logs to suit the length and width you wish to make your room. Notch them near the ends, that they may lie close when crossed, and that you may not have too large cracks to 'mud and chink up.' When you roll them up, put the largest logs on one side, with an extra one on top, that one side of the roof may be higher than the other; then if you have a few boards to cover it, with some slabs to lay over the cracks, your roof will be complete—only when it rains *too* hard. The inside can be soon finished with little planing or working, except the chimney. If you have boards for the lower floor, hemlock bark will do for the upper one. One window-sash, containing half a dozen of the smaller-sized window-panes, will let in a peep of daylight and sunshine. Bore some holes in the logs inside, drive in some sticks, lay boards on, and you have both pantry and cupboard in one, two, or three shelves, as the case may be. If you've nothing better, a blanket may serve for a door."

But a still more primitive style of architecture must have prevailed prior to the erection of the first saw-mills in the county, when boards and window-sash were not to be had, and when chimneys were as wide as the cabin except at the roof.

Oiled paper for window-panes was very common. Not less primitive than the buildings were some of their furnishings. Bedsteads or tables needed each but one leg, a corner of the cabin giving support to two sides of either. A slab supported by four short, round sticks formed a bench which took the place of chairs. Small branches of hemlock or birch were made to serve as brooms long years after the first cabins were erected, and large clean chips answered for plates, but one large central dish oftener served for a whole family. If, as sometimes happened, one child was inclined to secure more than his share of its contents, his hands were soon tied to give others a due chance.

"A good-sized log hollowed out and covered with a slab constituted the pioneer's beef-barrel, and venison was his beef."

Rougher than the cabins were the roads of early times, cut through dense forests, the large trees and saplings felled as near to the ground as possible, the former removed and the latter permitted to lie, and stumps and roots must be left to decay where they grew. Still, to the children of the pioneer, an ox-sled ride over such a road was not without its fascinations.

The first path or road in West Auburn, instead of following the creek, crossed the hills to the Benscoter place, and thence to Lyman Kinney's.

The timber was not so heavy on the hills as nearer the valleys, and the ground was dryer for unworked roads; and this may account for the choice of location of many of the early settlers.

Auburn is decidedly an agricultural township. A large quantity of grain is raised which mostly finds its way to the Lackawanna valley; and considerable attention is paid to the raising of stock, and the dairy business. If not exactly "a land

flowing with milk and honey," it yet can boast of an amount of the same equal to other townships of the county; one farmer milked twenty-nine cows the last summer, and in the winter of 1870-71 had 182 swarms of bees in his cellar.

The game which once abounded has disappeared, but as late as 1830, an old hunter was able to take up a note as per agreement *in deer skins*, one of which showed that the deer had been attacked by a wild-cat.

Machinery and horse-power are now introduced into much of farm work, as well as into other departments of business. Grain, formerly threshed by hand at the rate of fifteen bushels a day, is now rushed through the machine, in some instances, at the rate of a bushel a minute.

The summer of 1865 was a very productive season in Auburn, grain-fields were measured by the hundred acres.

The present wealth of Auburn is largely due to men who, though they came to the township within the last thirty-five years, might well be termed pioneers, since they cleared the farms they occupy, and reared log cabins too remote from others for neighborly comfort. Some of the late settlers are from New Jersey; but a larger number are of foreign birth. The names of Logan and Rooney are mentioned among the first Irish settlers here, in 1838. There are 500 taxables in Auburn, about 200 of whom are Irish. From being one of the poorest townships in the county, and one of the least in inhabitants, Auburn has become one of the richest and most populous.

But riches must be taxed, and in this particular the people have felt burdened, and have neglected to make provision for the public education commensurate with their wealth.

The Lehigh Valley R. R. recently extended up the Susquehanna River, passes near the southern border of the town, and cannot fail to produce a rapid advance in its industrial interest.

Near the western line of the township at New Laceyville a temporary interest in petroleum sprang up in 1865, which gave the place some prominence. [See Mineral Resources.] It will be recollected that this was the location of Eli Billings, sixty years previous. After the farm came into the hands of David Lacey it was divided; a portion being still owned by his son, E. J. Lacey. 60 acres passed into the possession of T. E. Brown, who in 1854 sold to J. C. Lacey, a son of Isaac; 13 acres passed to S. W. Eddy, who afterwards sold to the Rev. Asa Brooks; and it is now owned by A. F. and L. B. Lacey. Auburn has one *chop* and two grist-mills, four blacksmith shops, one chair factory and cabinet shop, six saw-mills, six stores, six churches and three hotels.

The Tuscarora Creek crosses a corner of Bradford Co. on its way into Wyoming Co., entering the Susquehanna River near

Skinner's Eddy, about ten miles from its head, furnishing with its tributaries motive power for fifteen saw-mills, three grist-mills, two shingle-mills, one planing-mill, one cabinet manufactory, one carding-machine, one tannery, one blacksmith shop, besides two or three lathe-machines. Four of the mills are in Susquehanna Co. One of these, at New Laceyville, manufactures 500,000 shingles annually. Other factories once in the vicinity are not now in operation. The place has (1872) two stores, a cabinet shop, a carpenter shop, and a blacksmith shop. Daniel Seeley's steam saw-mill is near New Laceyville.

The Methodist church is a building 33 by 48 feet, with a spire 80 feet high. It has a fine lecture-room which serves also for a select school.

There are also a Methodist and a Baptist church at Auburn Four Corners, and another Methodist church on Jersey Hill, a mile from the Center.

The Roman Catholic chapel is about half way between the Center and the Corners.

The first postmaster was Treadway Kellogg, at Auburn Four Corners. Chester Adams succeeded him in 1839.

Town elections are held at the Center, formerly at the house of George Haverly, but, after 1860, at James Lott's, now W. N. Bennett's. There are now three licensed hotels in Auburn—two at the Center, and the other at the Corners. Near the latter, many years ago, there was a blacksmith shop, the eccentric owner of which advertised himself as a "son of Vulcan," who was "like to fail and blow out for want of stock."

The first temperance movement at Shannon Hill was attended with some opposition. Wm. Overfield gave notice to those whom he had invited to a barn-raising (in 1837), that he should have no liquor; whereupon several professedly temperance men refused to assist him. One man, in particular, had declined, after hearing Mr. O. say he could not have liquor, "even if the timbers had to remain on the ground till they rotted." "Very well," said Mr. O., "I should like your help very much, but *I can't have liquor*." Then Mr. —, with a strong expletive, declared he would come anyhow; and he did, bringing his two sons with him. Fifteen persons raised the barn—which was as large as any in Auburn at that time.

The war-record of Auburn compares favorably with other townships, as given in a later chapter. A heavy draft for soldiers was made in the fall of 1862, when a young man in the neighborhood of the "Four Corners" was summoned to the field of strife. His father, true to the impulses of paternal affection, determined to go instead of the son. The latter objected, friends remonstrated, believing the son could better be spared. But the father persisted, went to the examining sur-

geon, was pronounced sound, and made ready to start. While in Montrose, previous to the final departure of the company, it was found that the quota of Auburn was overdrawn, and, the name of the person for whom our hero was substituted being last on the list, he was excused, and was soon welcomed home.

One young man, eighteen years of age, served during the war, and is said to have received ten perforations by bullets; but returned home, and has since married.

Sisters worked the farm while brothers went to the war. In one instance, two girls, aged respectively sixteen and fourteen, with their little brother, aged twelve, dug eighty bushels of potatoes; and, in company with their father, threshed two hundred bushels of buckwheat, and gathered three hundred and fifty bushels of apples.

At Shannon Hill, early in the war, all the young men enlisted but *one*; the patriotic girls decided that they stood in need of no home guard, and he, too, volunteered, became a brave soldier, received a wound, and eventually came home respected by all.

In 1868, about forty persons were living in the township over seventy years of age, ten of whom were over eighty years, and one, Thomas Devin, a native of Ireland, was ninety-six. [Since deceased, when ninety-eight, lacking one month.]

There is considerable rough, heavily timbered land in the township, but nearly all is seated.

CHAPTER XIX.

FRANKLIN.

ABOUT the year 1788, Timothy Pickering, of Philadelphia, patented a large tract of land lying along the valley of Snake Creek, and west of a line since forming the east line of the township of Silver Lake. Tench Coxe also patented a tract, afterwards included in the southwest part of old Lawsville, and extending into Bridgewater; and, October, 1796, Henry Drinker, also of Philadelphia, patented a large tract east of that of Pickering, and running south into New Milford, and east to Great Bend. Drinker's tracts, containing 20,750 acres, were conveyed, in 1796, to Ephraim Kirby and Samuel A. Law, David Welch, Rufus Lines (five hundred acres in 1797),

Jacob Tallman, Robert Bound (or Bowne), and others; and were then re-surveyed into lots of one hundred acres each.

In August of that year, Eph. Kirby and others (not then residents), presented a petition, praying the court, then in session at Wilkes-Barre, to set off a new township, six miles square; having Willingborough, now Great Bend, for its eastern boundary, and extending from the twenty-first to the twenty-seventh mile-stone on the State line. The petition was "under advisement" until January, 1797, and the ordering of the court in its favor was not "finally" confirmed until January, 1798. The township received the name of Lawsville, in honor of Samuel A. Law,¹ a landholder, to whose influence, doubtless, it was owing that most of those who settled in Lawsville prior to 1805, were from his native town, Cheshire, New Haven Co., Conn.

In 1802, a petition for annexing one and a half miles to the south of Lawsville was brought before the court, but it was not granted until three years later.

For thirty years, Lawsville remained undivided; when, in December, 1835, Franklin was erected from the southern portion, in connection with a strip, about a mile wide, from the northern part of Bridgewater.

Though the township of Liberty, rather than Franklin, is the remnant of old Lawsville, the former had not a settler when Lawsville was erected; and for many years the south part of the township maintained its precedence both in population and influence.

From the first town meeting, in 1805, for more than twenty years, the south part, now Franklin, contained more voters than the north part, now Liberty, and the town meetings were held in the former; but about the year 1827 or '28, the north part proved its superiority in numbers by carrying the vote to change the place of town elections to its own neighborhood. The men of the south part chafed some at this, but they had no alternative but to submit, which they did peaceably for a number of years, though feeling jealous of a numerical power that might force them into other measures, equally against their wishes.

When the subject of accepting the provisions of the school law was agitated, they wished to suspend their decision for a time; while they of the north readily voted for it. This precipitated a separation.

Between the two parties the time-honored name of Lawsville was dropped from the list of Susquehanna townships.

¹ Of Hon. S. A. Law, a daughter of Roswell Smith writes: "He was ever a welcome visitor at my father's house, when business called him to this region. He was gentlemanly, affable, and noticed children kindly."

From the manuscript of Mrs. N. Park we glean the following:—

Three-quarters of a century ago, the forest that covered the land of both townships was unbroken, except where the beavers had destroyed the timber to build a dam across a branch of Wylie Creek. One or two small lakes, fringed with pond-lilies, reflected from their still depths the varied aspects of the sky. These and the busy brooklets were breathing-places within the great mass of vegetable life. The principal timber consisted of hemlock, beech, sugar and soft maple, birch, ash, chestnut, pine, poplar, basswood, ironwood, elm, and cherry; these were found proportionally much as in the order here given. Interspersed through the forest, in many places, was an underwood of smaller growth, such as the blue beach, whistlewood or black maple, shad or June-berry, several varieties of alder and elder, witch-hazel, sassafras, spice or fever bush, sumach, thorns, willows by water-courses, and occasionally on high lands, box, and leather-wood. Among the many plants and roots now abounding in the forests of Franklin, and reputed to possess healing virtues, are spikenard, sarsaparilla, several kinds of cohosh, wild turnip, ginseng, Solomon's seal, valerian, prince's pine, gold thread, snake root, brook-liverwort, low centaury, golden rod, and balmony.

The surface of Franklin is made up of hills and gentler slopes with little table-land, and in the vicinity of its streams, small flats and narrow valleys. None of the hills are of sufficient height to claim the name of mountains, though from several summits fine views of the surrounding country can be obtained. Some are rough, and so thickly covered with rocks and stones as to render their cultivation difficult, if not impossible; but many are comparatively smooth and tillable. The soil is considered quite equal to that of other townships in this section.

Only two streams worthy of note have any considerable part of their course in Franklin: these are Snake and Wylie Creeks. Snake Creek and its tributaries furnish the western part of the township many good mill-seats with an abundance of water-power. Its principal sources are Jones' Lake and Williams' Pond, one or two miles apart, in the northern part of Bridge-water. Both branches afford mill privileges before their junction. One fails to perceive in the course of Snake Creek anything to give rise to its distinctive name; on the contrary, it manifests fewer "serpentine" proclivities than creeks in general.

Wylie Creek is a smaller stream offering few facilities for business within the township limits. It is formed by the union of many rills from living springs in different sections of the township. Their confluence in the eastern section gives a water-power sufficient for saw-mills; from that point the creek runs northeasterly to the eastern boundary of the township, when its course is due north for two or three miles. It enters Great Bend township near the middle of its western line, and again flowing northeast it reaches the Susquehanna River a short dis-

tance below the village, and near the former residence of Simeon Wylie, in honor of whom it was named.

On the arrival of the first settlers in the vicinity of these streams, they found them, and Franklin's lone lake, well stocked with a variety of fish, of which the trout was the most highly prized.

One of the largest tributaries of the Snake is Silver Creek, which is formed by the outlets of Silver and Cranberry Lakes in the adjoining township on the west. Another stream, variously named as Stony, Cold Brook, and Falls Creek, has its rise also in that township, and flows into Silver Creek near the Salt Spring, just above which it exhibits a cascade, leaping over ragged rocks in a darkly shadowed defile. [Around this and the Mineral Spring lingers the legend given on a preceding page. Modern enterprise has reared a woolen factory here.] The locality has been for many years a resort for parties of pleasure from near and even distant townships; and, formerly, they could have found no wilder spot than this, enhanced by the picturesque, in all our county. But the efforts to utilize the spring have shorn it of much that was attractive in its surroundings. Other qualities than the saline are perceptible in the water of this spring; and both recent and early attempts have been made to turn to profit its supposed ingredients; but as yet only salt has been obtained, and this, though excellent in kind, has not proved remunerative in quantity.

The following advertisement appeared in the Montrose 'Centinel' in the fall of 1818:—

"The sportsmen of Susquehanna County are invited to attend a wolf-hunt on the waters of Snake Creek near the Salt Spring, on Friday, 27th of Nov. A large tract of wilderness will be surrounded and drove to the center in close order, until the party arrives at a certain circle marked out by lopping of bushes, when a halt will be made for further orders. Danger need not be apprehended, as the circle will be drawn around a hill."

From the diary of I. Richardson it appears that the hunt took place on the day appointed; and this is probably the one referred to by a recent contribution to the Montrose 'Republican':—

"Wolves were plenty and brought high bounties for scalps. In December, 1818, a great hunt was started, of five hundred men, including a circle of forty-seven miles. The hunters were divided into squads of tens and twenties and properly officered, and moved towards the center. Drove of deer were thus hedged in, but no wolves, and but one bear and one fox were captured."

As late as May 25th, 1830, Mr. Joseph Fish pursued a gang of wolves from the scene of their depredations in Lawsville, and captured seven whelps, the old one escaping at that time; but soon after he caught her in a trap, and since that time little trouble has been had from wolves in the township.

[So uniform are the floral productions of the county, that those of Lenox may serve as a sample of the whole. Mrs. Park, without attempting a technical classification, mentions the birds and animals found here; and adds a tribute to Franklin pioneers.]

Only one or two eagles are known to have been seen here. The Virginia horned and the little screech owl; hen, night, and sparrow-hawks; ravens, blackbirds, crows, catbirds, kingbirds, bob o-links, pigeons, partridges, quails, meadow larks, bluebirds, song sparrows, robins, yellowbirds, chipping-birds, thrushes, Phoebe birds, snowbirds, humming-birds, wrens, swallows, cuckoos, blue-jays, the "whip-poor-will," and several varieties of woodpeckers are well known in the vicinity. A red bird about the size of a robin, with black wings, is sometimes seen, and also another variety of the red bird, which is smaller.

Wolves, bears, panthers, and wild cats were formidable foes to the early settlers. Foxes, skunks, minks, weasels, and muskrats, found or made them "holes" in Franklin, and *all* are not yet ousted. The animals subsisting on the bark of trees, on browse, seeds, plants, roots, nuts, and fruit, were deer, woodchucks, raccoons, rabbits, squirrels, rats, mice, and moles. It is not now known that any beavers were seen by the first settlers; certainly not by their descendants.

There was no lack of striped snakes and water-snakes. Rattlesnakes infested only the eastern part of the township; many have been destroyed, but the race is not extinct. The milk-snake has occasionally been found in the dairy coiled in a pan of milk. Frogs in great numbers inhabit all the swamps and ponds. Toads abound. A species of turtle or land tortoise is sometimes found in Franklin, but so rarely as to be of but little interest. The bat is also seen, and innumerable species of insects.

Thus *life* was everywhere in this section before the coming of civilized man.

Savages are supposed not to have *dwelt* here, though there are evidences that they sometimes passed over the ground. It is certain they knew of the existence of salt springs in this vicinity.

The pioneers of this section were adventurous and enterprising men and women, whom we proudly remember as our ancestors. Neither rich nor poor, they belonged to a class which, with small capital, maintained a noble independence, by persevering industry and prudent economy. And, if they were not the descendants of parents of high literary culture and scientific attainments, neither were they the progeny of people debasingly ignorant, and uneducated; but of persons possessing good common sense and natural abilities, who had in a great measure been denied those advantages which may be gained by long and constant attendance at good schools. Not that they were wholly ignorant of books; tradition says most of them could read and write, knew something of arithmetic and geography, though some were never at school more than two weeks altogether.

A strong religious element, better incomparably than wealth, or worldly wisdom, pervaded the communities in which they were reared, and as a class they imbibed its principles and were intent upon its teachings. Faithfulness forbids the conveyance of the impression that they rose to manhood perfect models of all that is "lovely and of good report;" or that there were no instances of obliquity to cause deep humiliation and life-long regret. And yet it may be truthfully recorded that, with their early surroundings, habits were formed, principles established, and conservative influences diffused, which have not ceased, and which, it is hoped, will never cease, to bear fruits of righteousness; that much of our attachment to social order, virtue, and piety, and of our aversion to their opposites, is traceable to our Puritan ancestry in happy New England.

The first settlers in old Lawsville came from Connecticut, crossing the Hudson to Catskill, thence to the head of the Delaware River near Harpersfield, New York; thence to the valley of the Susquehanna at Wattles' Ferry, a point at the north end of Unadilla village; thence down the Susquehanna to Great Bend; the whole distance being nearly 250 miles, and much of it, west of the Hudson, a wilderness, through which their effects could be transported only by packs, or on an ox sled. From Great Bend they found their way to Franklin by marked trees and the compass, camping out on their arrival until rude cabins could be erected.

In the spring of 1797, James Clark made the first clearing in Lawsville, on the farm now owned and occupied by Billosty Smith.

In September of the same year, Rufus Lines and Titus Smith together left Cheshire, Connecticut, and by the route we have described reached Great Bend, where they learned that four other men from Connecticut had just passed through the place, and were engaged in cutting a road through the forest to Lawsville. Hastening forward, they joined the party—Messrs. Clark, Bronson, Clemons, and Buell; and added their efforts to expedite the undertaking, arriving at their destination, September 27th, the day Titus Smith completed his eighteenth year. Mr. L. was married and had several children, and was impelled to seek a home in a new country, that he might acquire more land than he could in his native place.

At this time they were only exploring, and soon went back to Great Bend. A few days later, Mr. Smith returned to his chopping, opposite the place now the property of Mr. Read, which Mr. L. had selected, and where he spent the rest of his life. All returned to Connecticut for the succeeding winter.

Mr. Buell began his clearing near Wylie Creek, quite in the eastern part of the town. He afterwards removed to New Milford, where he died.

In February, 1798, Titus Smith was again on the ground accompanied by an elder brother, Ephraim. They came in with a sled and oxen, bringing provisions and a few utensils. The sled, covered with boughs, was made to serve them for a shelter for a long time, and additional supplies were procured from Chenango Point (Binghamton) and Ochquago, until they raised their own.

Three other settlers had reached Great Bend in advance of them in February: David Barnum and his wife, and his brother Stephen, then unmarried. They emigrated from Vermont. Mr. Barnum purchased the lot which Titus Smith had begun to clear the preceding fall. Mr. Smith commenced anew on the

farm which he continued to cultivate and reside upon until old age; a paralytic shock disabled him a few years before his death.

Ephraim Smith selected the lot which joined that of Rufus Lines on the south, and there spent the remainder of his days. It is now owned and occupied by Mr. Seamons.

In the fall of 1798 Mr. Clark moved in his family, and now Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Barnum were the only women in the settlement. The Smith brothers returned to Connecticut for the winter. In 1799 Ephraim brought his family.

The year 1800 more than doubled the number of families here, and brought Friend and David Tuttle, young unmarried men. The added households were those of Rufus Lines, Titus Smith, Nathan Buell, and Theophilus Merriman; all from Connecticut. This date also marks the arrival of the first permanent settler in the north part of Lawsville. (See Liberty.)

During the next five years, 1800-1805, Roswell Smith, Josiah Churchell, Ralph Lines, Samuel Chalker, Edward Cox, Asa Cornwell, Enos Tuttle, and Daniel Chalker, with families; and three Smith brothers, without families, were added to the settlement in the south part (Franklin). The Chalkers remained but a few years in the south part, and then removed to the north part (Liberty). Edward Cox removed early to Choconut.

Raymond Smith, one of the unmarried brothers, came in 1803, and began a clearing in the east part of the town, on the farm now occupied by Harry Smith. Lodging at the house of his brother Titus, each morning found him crossing the hills nearly two miles through the woods to his work, carrying his dinner; and each evening, returning with the pleasant consciousness of having made good progress in his difficult undertaking. As soon as he had made a sufficient clearing, he built a log-cabin, and, towards the last of the summer he boarded himself, having bought a cow and raised a patch of potatoes. He subsisted for six weeks entirely on potatoes and milk.

He afterwards sold his improvement here to his brother Roswell, and began anew on the farm adjoining on the north.

These two brothers married sisters (step-daughters of John Hawley) and side by side they spent the remainder of their lives. All lived to be over eighty, and their united ages were three hundred and thirty-four years. The wife of Raymond Smith, widely known as "Aunt Roxy," died in 1868, and was mourned, as a "mother in Israel," by the community. A year and a half later, February 14, 1870, Raymond, the last survivor of the pioneers of Franklin, died in his eighty-ninth year. "He was endowed with a fine constitution, a well-balanced mind, and cheerful disposition, which he maintained by temperate habits and pure morals. His large, well-proportioned

frame was little bent, and his mind little impaired, by age." Of his four children, only one, Mrs. Garry Law, is living.

Before the close of the last century, mills had been erected in Great Bend where M'Kinney's mills now are, and there the Lawsville people could usually have their grinding and sawing done; but, in dry seasons, they were sometimes obliged to go to Windsor for their grinding, or later, to Lathrop's Lake in Dimock.

In 1802 or 1803 Mr. Bound, one of the landholders, erected a saw-mill, under the superintendence of Mr. Obed Doolittle, on Wylie Creek, in the eastern part of Lawsville; but it did not work well, and after a short trial was abandoned. Unprofitable to its owner, it was yet some help to the settlers in converting a few of their hemlock logs into slabs and boards, so much needed in the construction of their rude barns and houses.

About this time, or possibly a little prior to it, Captain David Summers, a man of business enterprise, with several sons to assist him, erected a grist-mill in that part of New Milford now known by his name; but the site was not well chosen, or other arrangements may have been faulty; and the benefits of this mill, also, were shared by the inhabitants, while proving unremunerative to the builder.

The first marriage in the settlement took place May 21, 1804—the parties being Friend Tuttle, a native of Cheshire, Connecticut, and Eunice, daughter of Rufus and Tamar Lines. Mr. T died December 19, 1820, aged thirty-nine. Mrs T. was left with eight children. She died August 13, 1869, in her eighty-fifth year.

Anson Smith, one of the seven brothers who settled in Franklin, was at work in 1805, on the farm where Charles Lawson now lives, when, by the fall of a limb of a tree into which he was chopping, as is supposed, his skull was fractured. Miss Polly Lord (afterwards Mrs. Dr. Fraser) found him lying helpless by the road, procured assistance, and he was taken to the house of his brother Titus, near by. A skilful physician was indispensable, and his brother Raymond set out at once by a bridle-path and marked trees for Dr. Baker, at the Forks of the Wyalusing. On hearing the case, Dr. B. advised him to consult Dr. Hopkins, of Tioga Point. He then retraced his steps, went down the valley of the Susquehanna forty or fifty miles, and returned with Dr. Hopkins. It was then at least three days after the injury was received; the case was considered hopeless, and the Dr. would not repeat his visit unless sent for. The sufferer lived nine weeks, and his brother went three times for the doctor, each trip requiring three days. Anson was twenty-two years of age and unmarried. The Rev. Seth Williston, a missionary, visited him. The presence of a minister was then a

rare event and highly prized. Upon the death of Mr. Smith, the ground for a cemetery was selected, and his burial was the first in the cemetery as well as in the township. The purchase was made from the adjoining farms of Rufus Lines and Ephraim Smith. In that sacred inclosure nearly all the first settlers of the place now rest.

Lyman, the youngest of the Smith brothers, was a minor when he came here. He was then under the guardianship of his eldest brother, Roswell. When he reached his majority he settled on a farm in Franklin, having married a daughter of Capt. Ichabod Buck, of Great Bend, and sister of his brother Ephraim's second wife. In 1820, Lyman became an active and useful member of the Congregational church, and, within a few years after it became Presbyterian, he was elected an elder. In 1849, he removed to Binghamton, New York, and united with a Presbyterian church there, his life corresponding with his Christian profession, until its close in his seventy-fifth year. With the exception of Anson, he was the only one of the seven who did not live to be over eighty years old.

The settlement did not increase rapidly. The new-comers to the south part from 1805 to 1810, were Josiah Davis, Aaron Van Voorst, Simon Park, Calvin and Luther Peck and their father; in 1810, Wright Green and James Watson, from Ireland, and Andrew Leighton, from Scotland. The last named brought in a small assortment of merchandise and established the first store in a log house near the old well on the present farm of P. T. Dearborn.

Simon Park moved his family into Lawsville in 1809. In his youth he had emigrated from Plainfield, Connecticut, to Kingston, in Wyoming Valley, where he settled on a tract of land owned by his father; from thence, in 1804, he went to Windsor, New York, moving his family and effects up the river on a flat boat. Soon after becoming settled in L., he built a saw-mill on Wylie Creek, thirty or forty rods below the place now occupied by Tingley's saw-mill. This he kept running several years, but, like the other mills mentioned, it served the people better than it did the owner, and was finally left to decay.

In 1811, Leman Churchell, Chauncey Turner, and James Vance (then from Harmony), settled in what is now Franklin.

The line between Franklin and Liberty was run a little lower than appears on the large county map, and included Mr. Vance in Liberty; but the court granted a petition from himself and next neighbor which assigned them to Franklin.

Boards were then not so easily obtained as to allow Mr. V. gable ends to his cabin for a long while after he entered it.

During the next four years—1811–1815—Charles Blowers, Julius Jones, Harrison Warner, and some others came in.

From 1815 to 1820, Calvin Wheaton, Allen Upson, Jacob Allard, Joel Morse, Ira Cole, Joseph H. Holley, John Blowers, James Owens, William Salmon, and the Websters came (1818). Joseph Webster, Sr., and his son John, a Baptist minister, located in Franklin, but others of the family in Liberty.

Some of the earliest settlers remained but a short time. David Barnum left prior to 1805, and became a popular hotel-keeper at Baltimore, Maryland.

Charles Miner, in his letter read at the Pioneer Festival held at Montrose, June 2, 1858, said:—

“Barnum, of Lawsville, had married a sister of Colonel Kirby (about that time one of the candidates for Governor of Connecticut), a very superior woman independent of her relationship. The Yankee girls of the best families readily accepted the invitations of clever, enterprising young men, though poor, to try their fortunes in subduing the wilderness.”

The same authority states that “Barnum” was landlord in Lawsville in 1799.

Stephen Barnum's place was further west and on another road. He sold it to a Mr. Townsend and sons, who are its present owners. He resided in the township nearly to the close of his life, but died in New Milford, at the residence of his son, E. Barnum, in January, 1859, at the age of eighty-two and a half years. He was appointed justice of the peace in 1836, but soon resigned.

Though the principal occupation of the men of Franklin has always been that of agriculture, there have been a few devoted to other business. Rufus Lines was a blacksmith, Raymond Smith a shoemaker, Josiah Davis and S. Chalker stone-masons, and many chimneys built by them still remain.

The number of expert hunters was small, but hunting and fishing were quite often pursued as a pastime, or to secure supplies for the table.

The amusements were few and simple. It was customary in some families to promise them to the children as rewards for the faithful performance of required tasks; and thus the privilege of a fishing excursion was heightened by the consciousness of parental approbation, and enjoyed all the more for being paid for in advance. The season of berries was made subservient to relieve the monotony of work for both boys and girls. The most luscious raspberries and blackberries grew wherever they were allowed on the newly cleared land, and in the absence of cultivated fruit they were of great value.

But sauntering in the wood, or gathering berries, had its drawbacks, for the jingle of the dreaded rattlesnake was often heard, causing a precipitate flight towards home; but

this was usually followed by a return to the scene of danger of some one who would give battle to the disturbing reptile, usually terminating in its destruction, and the conqueror coming in possession of its rattles.

Young women of different families visited each other rarely more than once a year; and then only in the most pleasant season, as it often required a walk of several miles. They invariably took with them plain sewing or knitting which would not interrupt conversation on topics connected with their daily occupations, which were those most frequently discussed. The making up of plain clothes for themselves or the family; the knitting of socks, stockings, and mittens; the bleaching of home-made linen, etc. etc., were to them objects of ambition only inferior to their spinning! Proof of skill and industry in this was seen hanging against the walls in bunches of yarn, linen, tow, or woolen, according to the season. Woolen and linen were the only sheeting used. Occasionally "a quilting" afforded the girls a fine opportunity for social enjoyment. And, in winter, it was customary for boys and girls to go together on evening visits to friends several miles distant, and for lodging, to distribute themselves among the different families of the neighborhood, who were always ready to accommodate them and make the party happy.

Trainings or military parades were great occasions for the boys. They furnished holidays for them twice in a year—the first Monday in May, and another Monday in autumn. For a *general* training two days were sometimes necessary. When the parades were at Great Bend, none but the larger boys could go; but it was all the more desirable to them to go so far, and to so grand a place as Great Bend, where there were frame-houses and a store; the latter, and perhaps a few of the former, being also *painted*.

They were permitted to don their best suits and start early, with "change" in their pockets to buy gingerbread, and perhaps "a drink;" if the latter was not thus provided for, it may safely be presumed their fathers "treated" them to one or more during the day, for moderate drinking was then thought a very innocent, if not a very necessary, indulgence.

Early in the present century, and before the settlers could raise enough grain for their support from one season to the next, they were sometimes threatened with a short allowance of the necessaries of life. It is said that such was the scarcity of provisions in the spring of 1799, that the new settlers had to dig up and eat the potatoes they had planted. The few inhabitants of the surrounding towns could do little more than supply their own wants.

Great efforts were made to procure even very limited sup-

plies. At one time Mrs. Merriman went twenty miles to get as many potatoes as she could bring on the back of the horse she rode; and this, over roads which we should call *terrible*—being full of knolls, stumps, roots, stones, and mud-holes, with the Susquehanna River to be crossed by fording!

The women of those days could dare and do as necessity demanded. Perhaps they had no sterner trial than to be without a suitable attendant at the birth of their children. Mrs. Mercy Tyler, of Harford (afterwards of Ararat), was indeed an angel of mercy to many an isolated mother; but distance sometimes made her inaccessible. "Whether the call came by day or by night, Mrs. T. attired herself suitably to mount her horse astride; and her guide needed not to 'slack his riding' for her sake."

RELIGIOUS.

It is said that in the "Lawsville settlement" the Sabbath was observed from the first. With Saturday night secular labor ceased, and quiet reigned throughout the forest-homes.

The influence of early training, example, and habit preserved the people from open desecration of a day which they had been taught to regard as sacred, though they were far removed from those religious privileges and associations which had attended their childhood and youth.

Most of them were from Cheshire, New Haven County, Connecticut, where no deep religious interest is known to have been felt until many years after the period under consideration. This may in a measure account for the fact that, notwithstanding these privileges, few of them had made an experimental acquaintance with religion at the time of their emigration; but they erected and maintained a high standard of public morals. Mrs. Tamar Lines and Mrs. Sarah Merriman were the first, and for five years the only, professors of religion in the place. Their piety, though unobtrusive, was decided, and in after years they were referred to as almost faultless examples of Christian character. Mrs. M. died in 1835, aged sixty-six; Mrs. L. in 1843, aged eighty. But their memory has not perished, nor has their influence ceased to be felt. Of their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, it may be said that some of them, we have good reason to believe, have "fallen asleep in Jesus;" some are useful citizens and active Christians of Franklin and other townships of this and a neighboring county; and others of them, sustaining the same character, are scattered in several distant States. Captain Roswell Smith was the first male professor of religion who settled here. He remained at the old homestead in Connecticut a number of

years after the others had left it—all but the youngest, to whom he was guardian. He came with his wife and five children,¹ near the end of winter, in 1805. Their library consisted of three Bibles, a copy of 'Watts's Psalms and Hymns,' a Methodist hymn-book, the 'Assembly's Shorter Catechism,' 'Jenks's Devotion,' and the 'Book of Common Prayer;' with one or two spelling-books.

[After a time, 'Miner's Gleaner' was taken by Capt. Smith, and a small circulating library was obtained for New Milford and Lawsville, John Hawley, librarian.]

Religious worship commenced soon after the first settlement of the town. As early as 1801 or 1802 missionaries came here from Connecticut and Massachusetts, and meetings were held at Mr. Theophilus Merriman's and other private houses, until the old South school-house was built, and then meetings were held there. About 1808-1809, meetings were held by Deacon Ward at Benjamin Doolittle's, in New Milford, and at Deacon Titus Smith's, in Lawsville (Franklin), every alternate Sabbath.

The organization of the New Milford and Lawsville "Union Congregational Church" took place at the house of John Hawley, in New Milford, the 28th day of September, 1813, the Rev. Ebenezer Kingsbury, missionary from Connecticut, and the Rev. Joseph Wood, pastor of the first church in Bridgewater, officiating.

The following persons composed the church when organized: Ichabod and Mary Ward, Roswell and Hannah Smith, Titus Smith, Sally (Mrs. Ephraim) Smith,² Friend Tuttle, Lucretia Truesdell, Hannah Doolittle, Sybil Dayton, Phebe and Merab Hawley. Circumstances deferred Mrs. Lines' and Mrs. Merriman's connection with this church until February, 1814.

Rev. Ebenezer Kingsbury was chosen standing moderator of the church, Ichabod Ward was chosen, deacon, and Friend Tuttle, scribe. Of the first twelve members not one is now living, though nine of them lived to be over eighty years, and three over ninety years of age. Meetings for public worship were kept up by the church until 1814, when the Rev. Oliver Hill, missionary from Connecticut, was unanimously called to be their pastor. He accepted the call, and on the 15th of February, same year, the Luzerne association met at the house of Ephraim Smith to examine Mr. Hill as a candidate for the ministry. On the 16th his ordination took place in Mr. E. Smith's

¹ These had lost their own mother. Three weeks after their arrival in Lawsville, a daughter was added to the family—the same to whom we are indebted for much of the information contained in this chapter. At the time of Captain Smith's death, he had five sons and six daughters, who were married and had families.

² Of her it was written, "She lived to the glory of God." She died in 1849.

barn. Mr. Hill continued his ministrations in Lawsville and New Milford, dividing his time equally between the two places, until May 25, 1819. (He afterwards went to Michigan, and died there December, 1844, in the sixty-fifth year of his age.)

Mrs. Park, in a sketch of her father and mother, Captain Roswell Smith and his second wife, says of them:—

“They hailed with joy the coming of missionaries, entertained them at their house, sent notices through the settlement where they would preach, and always attended religious worship with as many of the family as circumstances would permit. When meetings were within two miles all could go. The older children could walk; father rode on one horse with a child before him; mother on another, with a babe in her lap. In addition, when necessary, they could take one of the older daughters upon a pillion behind them on the same horse. From the place now called Brookdale, in Liberty, to New Milford Valley there were persons who were habituated to public worship, and many log dwellings between these points were, at different times, crowded for that purpose. People sometimes went to Harford and to Great Bend to hear missionaries, and it was not uncommon when we had preaching to see people from those places in our congregation.”

Mrs. Park's descriptions are doubled in value by their universal application. She adds:—

“There were two services on each Sabbath, with an intermission of an hour, or (in winter) of half an hour. During this time the people remained in and around the house where the meeting was held, separately eating a lunch brought from home, or engaging in such conversation as was thought to befit the occasion. All common secular talk was considered a desecration of the day, and children of religious families were strictly charged to be very circumspect in this particular.

“When no minister was present our public worship was conducted by Deacon Ward, of New Milford, who was a good singer and reader; but Mr. John Foot usually led the singing, and sometimes he or Mr. B. Doolittle read the sermon.”

The church has maintained public worship to the present time, the pulpit being supplied by different ministers; and from time to time large additions have been added to their membership.

Two churches, one in New Milford and the other in Liberty, have been organized with members who belonged originally to the “Union” church.

During Mr. Hill's ministry, the South school-house was the established place of worship. At that time there were no Sabbath-schools, but Mr. Hill took great pains in the religious instruction of the young, giving them lessons to commit, and meeting them at appointed times to hear their recitations, to explain to them the word of God, and to pray with them. He preached but one-half the time in Lawsville, one-fourth in New Milford, and the remaining fourth he was employed as a missionary to labor in more destitute places around. In his absence the three resident church members were persuaded to conduct regular public worship. There had been a season of unusual

religious interest in this region a number of years before a church was organized. At that time Titus Smith and Friend Tuttle were converted, and the number of family altars in Lawsville was then increased to three. Other individuals on joining the church, years afterwards, dated their first serious impressions from that period. In 1818 there was another revival of religion, and on the 9th of August fourteen members were added to the church. The school-house was too small for the occasion, and the meeting was held in Ephraim Smith's barn. In the summer of 1820 there was another revival, which extended, as the former did not, beyond the present limits of Franklin, to nearly if not quite all those families in the northern part of Lawsville, which were regular attendants on public worship.

Rev. Lyman Richardson, of Harford, about this time licensed to preach the gospel, labored in Lawsville with great faithfulness and success. Intent only on serving his Master, he left his pecuniary reward to be measured by the ability and generosity of the people. In the September following about thirty were added to the church, of various ages, from the gray-haired man to the little girl of ten years. Mr. R. left soon after to labor in Wysox. In 1821 Rev. Enoch Conger, employed by the Susquehanna County Domestic Missionary Society, visited the church at different times, and formed the first Sabbath-school in Lawsville. During the succeeding two years he was hired to preach there one-half the time, and for the better accommodation of all who attended on his ministry, he preached alternately at the three school-houses—north, south, and east; but the Sabbath-school was held every Sabbath at each of the school-houses. In the autumn of 1824 Mr. C. removed to Ohio. His youngest child at that time was Williston Kingsbury, afterwards Lieutenant Conger, of the company that arrested Wilkes Booth. Rev. Enoch C. died at the West in the spring of 1872.

The first church edifice in Franklin was erected on Cemetery Hill in 1824. Its cost was about \$1400. In 1846 it was repaired and greatly improved at an expense of \$400, and in 1866 the old building having been removed, a neat and commodious one took its place, costing something over \$3000.

In 1836, the church changed its form of government to Presbyterian. Five elders were chosen, among whom were Roswell, and Dea. Titus Smith. Friend Tuttle, who once shared with them the principal care of the church, had died in 1822, leaving a whole community to mourn his loss. He was eminently a peacemaker.

The first parsonage built was erected in 1849. (Rev. Mr. Hill had bought a few acres of land, and built a frame dwelling house and barn prior to 1820; and as late as 1867, this first

parsonage of Franklin might have been seen a few rods east of the Upsonville Exchange, but it has since been demolished.) This was destroyed by fire, May 22d, 1858; but on account of the terrible affliction that accompanied it, the loss was scarcely felt. It was late on Saturday night when the building was discovered to be on fire. The family were roused from sleep, and the pastor, Rev. Joseph Barlow, under the bewildering excitement of the moment, as is supposed, attempted to enter the room where the fire was raging. As he opened the door, the flames burst out upon him, suffocating him, and causing death before he could be reached. His body was nearly consumed.

Mr. Barlow was born near Manchester, England, in April, 1787. He was converted early in life, and entered the ministry in the Methodist connection before he attained his twenty-first year. He emigrated to this country in 1819, united with the Presbyterian church in 1835, and became connected with the Montrose Presbytery the same year.

A larger and more convenient parsonage was completed in 1860, on the site of the former, a few rods south of the church.

The Methodists have a neat church edifice at the Forks, erected at a cost of \$4000. There is also a Baptist church in the same neighborhood.

A temperance society and a tract society were formed in Lawsville at an early day.

At present there is no licensed retailing of ardent spirits; hence intoxication, pauperism, and crime are but little known in the community.

The first school-house—a log structure—was erected in 1806, on the farm Sylvester Smith formerly owned, and near where Stiles Jacobus lives. The first teacher was Esther Buck (afterwards Mrs. James Newman of Great Bend); the second was Polly Bates (Mrs. Sylvester Smith); the third, Penila Bates (Mrs. Seth Hall), both daughters of Thomas Bates of Great Bend. Anna Buck and Selina Badger were later teachers. It is not known that there was any winter school till about 1809, when Dr. Gray, a transient settler, was employed to teach—he and his wife living in the school-house at the same time. James De Haert taught there the next winter. (He died at the house of Rufus Lines in 1813.) It is thought Lemman Churchell taught during the winter of 1810–11 the last school in the building. Mr. C. was a Methodist exhorter, and held regular meetings in school-houses at an early day.

The old school-house was built in 1811 or '12. It stood nearly forty years, and was then accidentally burned. A better one was soon built near its site. The first building called the *East* school-house, was erected in 1818; but a better one has for many years stood in its place. In 1819, the North school-

house was set a little north of Upsonville; later at this place, and was afterwards removed to make room for the brick school-house which is still standing. Lucy Upson (Mrs. S. W. Truesdell) taught the first two seasons. Farther west, the Allard and Baker school-houses were in one neighborhood.

The first post-office in Lawsville was established in 1811, and Richard Barnum (brother of Stephen) was the first postmaster. The office was kept on the same ground nearly fifty years. It has since been removed to a store called "Upsonville Exchange," a short distance above, and is kept by J. L. Merriman. After the town of Franklin was erected, some confusion in mail matters was occasioned from the fact that there are other towns of that name in the State; and consequently the name of Upsonville was given to the post-office, in honor of Allen Upson, then P. M. The name attaches to the neighborhood. Frederick Lines was the first P. M. appointed in Franklin after the division of Lawsville; he resigned the office on becoming justice of the peace.

In Franklin, August 18, 1846, four generations mowed together: Charles Blowers, aged eighty-six; John Blowers, sixty-three; Daniel C. Blowers, thirty-eight; and Albert Blowers, fourteen. The first named was a native of Dutchess County, New York. He lived to see the fifth generation, and died at the age of ninety-one, in Franklin.

Franklin Forks, at the junction of Silver and Snake Creeks, besides its churches, has two stores, two saw-mills, a blacksmith shop, a school-house, and a post-office.

"Mungerville is situated in the Snake Creek Valley, three miles north of Montrose, on the direct road to Binghamton. It contains about 100 inhabitants, has a large tannery, saw-mill, store, school-house, and a number of good dwelling-houses. It has no post-office.

"J. H. & E. P. Munger, during the past year, have tanned 27,860 sides of sole leather, which is 1000 more than was ever tanned here before, in a year. They give constant employment to about twenty-five men, and consume about 3000 cords of bark annually, for which they pay cash, at a good price, making employment for many in the surrounding country. They have lately fitted up a store.

"L. Foot, having purchased the saw-mill formerly owned by A. Lathrop, has taken out the muley, and put in a circular saw, and now cuts from four to five thousand feet of lumber a day, with a full head of water."

CHAPTER XX.

LIBERTY.

PRIOR to the erection of the township of Franklin, the most of its area, together with the whole of Liberty, was included in "Old Lawsville"—the third township set off by the court of Luzerne between 1790–1800, from the territory now included in Susquehanna County. But, though with Franklin the older settled portion of Lawsville had been taken away, the prestige of the *old name* was left to the remainder or north part; and "the more's the pity," it should have been so undervalued as to be exchanged less than a year later (September, 1836) for that of Liberty. Its area is about four and a half miles by six.

Most of what has been already written respecting the surface and productions of Lawsville, applies equally well to the north as to the south part of the township. Corn is the best crop, but rye is good. Corn is solid; weighs over sixty pounds to the bushel.

The most profitable business for the farmer in this section is the same as that in so many other townships—the making of butter. Sheep are kept in considerable numbers.

Next in importance to Snake Creek is Ranney Creek, which rises near the Catholic church, in the township of Silver Lake, and running northeast, crosses nearly three-fourths of the width of Liberty, and empties into Snake Creek at Brookdale. Still another stream rises in the former township between "Derwent" and Cranberry Lakes, which joins the outlet of Mud Lake, and pursuing an easterly course empties into Snake Creek at Lawsville Center. Both these creeks afford fine mill privileges. Bailey Brook has a short course near the center of the township, while Wylie Creek forms its southeastern boundary for about a mile and a half.

Tripp Lake, a small sheet in the western part of Liberty, has an outlet also emptying into Snake Creek, near the "Pleasant Valley House" of B. Jones, Esq.

The early settlers appear to have been men of great physical endurance and firmness of mind; prudent, counting the cost, and ascertaining if the work to be accomplished was within the compass of their means; their plans once matured, they were pursued with unflinching determination. They were generally persons of very limited means, and were obliged to sustain

themselves by their own energy and industry. Several were in their minority when they settled there.

The township had for its first resident the Hon. Timothy Pickering, of Revolutionary fame. It is known that late in the last century he found his way into the valley of the Snake Creek and built a cabin on land now in Liberty and owned by Garry Law, Esq. He made a clearing and remained a year or two. Either before or soon after this, he became a large landholder in this and other townships of the county. About the same time, Stephen Ranney, of Litchfield, Connecticut, made a small clearing on the farm now owned by Perry B. Butts. He spent one or two years here and then left; but Ranney Creek perpetuates his name [written Rhiney on the atlas].

A man named Bronson, also from Litchfield, Connecticut, made a clearing on what has been long known as the Ives farm. A Mr. Clemons (Philo?) made a small clearing near Calvin Markham's place, but soon left.

The first actual settler with a family, was Samuel Woodcock, another Litchfield County man; his location was near where the saw-mill of Alanson Chalker now stands, about half a mile from the State line. This was in 1799 [one authority makes it 1800]. Mr. W. superintended the building of a saw-mill and grist-mill for Robert Bound, a large landowner in the township.

In 1800, Joseph and Ira Bishop, both young men without families came in. Joseph settled where Knight and Munson's tannery stands in Brookdale, and his farm contained about 100 acres. Ira settled on what was afterwards known as the Hance farm.

In 1805, Waples Hance moved in and purchased the above farm and lived there until his death in December, 1843, at the age of ninety years.

No further mention is made of any settlement of this part of Lawsville until 1811, when John Holmes, Edward Hazard, Peleg Butts, Jonathan and Jesse Ross, Caswell and Nathaniel Ives settled on the creek in the north part of the township. The Rosses were on the farm now owned by E. Lockwood and C. Markham.

Peleg Butts was previously in Silver Lake. He lived to be eighty years old, and died on the farm now occupied by his sons Abraham and Isaac, very near the State line in Liberty.

Samuel Truesdell and sons, in 1811, located southeast of Lawsville Center, on the farm lately occupied by one of them, S. W. Truesdell, Esq. The latter was a justice of the peace for the township twenty years; he died October, 1872, aged seventy-three. He furnished many items for these pages.

Within the next four years, Israel Richardson (1812), Asa

Bennet, Joseph Hutchinson (1812), Jedediah Adams (from Great Bend), the family of Caswell Ives (Reuben then a boy), Dr. Stanford, Benajah Howard, Ebenezer Allen, David Bailey, and some others came in. Asa Bennet settled where I. Comstock recently lived. Ebenezer Allen settled on the place now occupied by Daniel Adams.

David Bailey came from Bucks County, Pennsylvania. He died in Liberty about the year 1844. His widow (Mary) died in 1868, aged eighty. Their descendants number about one hundred. The historian of the Abington Baptist Association, Rev. E. L. Bailey, was their son. He was three years chaplain to the Senate at Harrisburg, and subsequently became pastor of the Baptist church in Carbondale, where he died in 1870.

Rev. H. C. Hazard, now sixty-five years of age, gave in 1870, the following items respecting his father, Edward Hazard:—

“Fifty-eight years ago last March, my father, with his family, moved from Otsego County, N. Y., down the Susquehanna River to where Windsor Village now stands, and over the Oghquago Mountains to Great Bend, *via* Taylortown; crossed the river in a scow, thence down the south side of the river to the mouth of Snake Creek, and up the creek two miles, where he located in an almost unbroken wilderness. The wolves were our nearest neighbors, especially at night. I saw one in the daytime within ten rods of the house, where a beef had been dressed the day before. My father used to kill as many as forty deer in a year; the hides furnished clothing and the carcasses meat.

There was not a school-house from Binghamton to Montrose, and a meeting-house I had never seen. The first school-house was built where is now Brookdale, on Snake Creek, at my father's instigation; and he, being a carpenter and joiner, built the house, and afterwards taught the first school. I went to Binghamton to the grist-mill with my father in a canoe, some fifty years ago, when it was a wilderness where half or two-thirds of the city now stands; however, we usually got our grinding done at Josiah Stewart's, where McKinney's mill now stands. Great Bend was our point of trade.”

In 1813, George Banker came from the south part of Lawsville, where he located three years earlier.

In 1815, Daniel Marvin came to the place previously occupied by Joseph Hutchinson.

Jonathan Howard came from Dutchess County, N. Y., in 1817, and remained in Liberty until his death, in 1869, at the age of eighty-eight. He was a soldier in the war of 1812.

Archi Marsh came from Connecticut on foot, in the fall of 1817; he was accompanied by S. W. Truesdell, who was returning from a visit to his native place. ✓

Stephen Dawley, a son-in-law of Joseph Webster, Senior, accompanied the latter, when he came to Lawsville, in February, 1818; but Mr. D. located in the north part, now Liberty. They were sixteen days on the journey from Connecticut, with two yoke of oxen, the weather being very cold.

Though Joseph Webster and his son John were permanent

residents of Franklin, his son Alexander and family located in Liberty, and James and Joseph, Jr., came here afterwards.

Previous to 1820, Constantine Choate, Chauncey North, Aurelius Stevens, John Morse, and Peter Gunsalus were here. The last named had been in Franklin. David O. Turrell came in 1820; Roger Kenyon, Senior, in 1822, and Garry Law in 1826.

In 1820, with the exception of the clearings of Jonathan Howard and Peleg Butts, the country west of Snake Creek to Silver Lake was an unbroken wilderness. There was no sale of land on the Pickering tract, in Liberty, until after 1820, except in the valley of Snake Creek. (The population of Lawsville, in 1820, was 466—females a majority of 8.)

Israel Richardson, a surveyor, originally from Windsor County, Vermont, came to Lawsville (Liberty), from Willingborough (Great Bend). He had been a school-teacher at the latter place, where he had resided three or four years, and where he married Lucy Adams, a daughter of one of its first settlers. He kept a diary from which some extracts are taken, as illustrative of the necessities and customs of the times. He raised his log house, near Snake Creek, on the 23d of March, 1812, and soon after brought to it "a back-load of goods." On the 1st of April he occupied the house, "on the 13th put up the east gable end, laid some chamber-floor, and brought the table home on his back." On the 30th he "leveled the ground in the house." "Trainings" were important affairs in those troublous times; on the 20th of May, the second of the kind for that month, he "went to training out to Post's." (He does not speak of *Montrose* until eighteen months later.)

On the 1st of June, "went to mill to Chenango Point—Bevier's—absent three days." In November of the same year he was engaged in clearing out "the old Bronson road"—a road of no small consequence to the early settlers; over it the mail was carried to Silver Lake to Great Bend, thence to Lawsville, and back to Montrose, once a week.

Late in November, "split sticks for chimney. Made a paper window in north side of the house."

The first season he raised only one acre of green oats, and one hundred and seventy bushels of potatoes. In December, he hired out at twelve dollars per month, the usual rate when board was given.

Early in 1813, while farm-work permitted, he, like most of the pioneers, "could turn his hand" to various occupations. "Made a pair of shoes in an evening." "Made swifts, warping-bars, and spool frame;" for the wife of the pioneer could always spin, and generally weave.

"Made twenty-four bass-wood sap troughs in a day." A

little later, he adds: "Bass-wood troughs did leak—put ash-wood in their place."

In the spring he was frequently engaged in surveying, in which he was quite often the companion of James De Haert, the brother of Balthasar, so long and favorably known in Susquehanna County. The brothers were long engaged in the effort to develop the resources of the Salt Spring on Silver Creek.

Balthasar De Haert came to Chenango Point, or vicinity, about 1801. Had received the title of judge in New Jersey. James De H. had also some knowledge of law. Judge De H. was considered by Dr. Fraser, for whom he wrote many years while Dr. F. held county offices, as one of the most honorable and upright of men.

Occasionally Mr. R. visited the fish ground, Susquehanna River, and in May, he mentions bringing home forty shad. He also found a "bee-tree," which was then a fortunate occurrence, both on account of its ready store for honey, and because, with proper care, the bees could be hived for future service.

In November of this year "gathered thorn-apples at Samuel Symmonds."

Early in December the entry runs, "I and wife finished the chimney." From various narrators we learn that it was no uncommon thing to pass months without *any* chimney—a hole in the roof serving as vent for the smoke of a fire built within a circle of large stones placed against the wall, or in the center of the cabin.

It appears the culture of tobacco was attempted here as early as 1814, as Mr. R. mentions his tobacco plants in July; under date of Oct. 16th, writes, "I stript tobacco."

The war then in progress between England and the United States made demands on the new settlements as well as the old, and, November 4th, Mr. R. was "notified to march a soldiering." A substitute was engaged for \$50, but his own services were soon rendered, the famous Danville expedition starting and returning within the same month.

During the year 1815 reference is made to the meeting held at Jos. Bishop's and in other private houses by "Priest Hill," and by the Baptist missionary, Elder Peter P. Roots. "Log-ging-bees" occasioned not only opportunities for mutual service among neighbors in clearing up their farms, but were merry-makings besides. All heavy work was done by "bees." There was of course little market for *wood*, consequently to free the land of it, it was rolled up in heaps after being felled and chopped into convenient lengths, and then burned.

In January, 1816, Mr. R. "followed otters' tracks down as far

as Simmons'." (Samuel Simmons settled where Charles Adams now resides.)

The terrible cold summer of 1816 finds a comment in, "The chestnut trees are full in the blow, the 10th day of August!"

One Sabbath in 1817, "All go to hear Priest Gilbert at the old Bennett house."

Every horse was then considered able to "carry double," and the "pillion" was the appendage of every saddle, when wheeled carriages were not to be thought of for family church-going.

In July he "laid out the road from Vance's to Southworth's," (then near Jones' Lake).

Not far from this time the streams were suddenly swollen by heavy rains, and the bridge over the Snake Creek (near Bailey Brook?) was carried off, a serious calamity to the then straitened resources of the township, and which was repaired only by help from the county.

Very little cash found its way to the pockets of a people so far from markets for their produce; once in a while "a paper dollar" is seen, but spoken of as a curiosity.

"S. B. Welton agrees to make 80 rods of good rail fence for a shilling a rod, of posts and rails, five feet high, *hog tite*." At this rate the workmen made about a dollar a day; but it was common for a man to accept fifty cents for chopping or logging, "and found." Venison was from 2 to 3 cents per lb., pork 10 cents, and milk 1 cent per qt. A note is made of the purchase of a partridge "for 10 cents in money down," but 12½ cents were demanded for an orange.

March 20th, 1818, "Town meeting held at Esq. Lines'."

The months of July and August found Mr. R. chiefly engaged in surveying, and from his notes one must conclude no one was more familiar than he with the lands in Lawsville and on the "Wharton track," beyond, (?) and with all the roads in the vicinity.

"September 24th I go to the Bend and see the elephant." Later, "Carry some cloth to Summers' fulling-mill to be dressed for me a coat and pantaloons." (Broad cloth coats were not often seen in farm-houses in 1818.)

Thanksgiving-day was observed the 19th of November. A great wolf hunt is mentioned about this time.

In June, 1819, the arrival of "Englishmen just from England" is noted—probably the founders of "Britannia" in Silver Lake.

"Shot a deer just below the bridge:" "shot a fox;" "shot a doe," and similar expressions occur occasionally in the memoranda.

The following item is truly worthy of preservation: "I let the post have \$2.00 to pay the printer for a year's paper."

An exchange of home productions accommodated the people;

thus a bushel of apples was sometimes procured by a quantity of sage, etc.

Late in that year he laid out "a road from the old river road near Cooper Corbett's to State line, near Peleg Butts."

The first of January, 1820, Mr. R. began teaching a school near Alfred Ross', and which he continued six weeks at \$10 per month! Sixty-three weeks' board for a man, and sixty-one for a woman, could then be obtained for \$25 (without liquors, candles, or medicine).

Dr. Rufus Fish was an early settler of Great Bend, but subsequently (about 1819) lived in Liberty, on the "Ranney Clearing," before mentioned. He moved back to Great Bend, then again to Liberty, on the farm where Philo C. Luce lives; and from there to the Salt Spring in Franklin, where he died.

It is said the "Blue Laws" of Conn. were once in force in Liberty, and Sunday traveling, for ordinary purposes, was prohibited. A fine was laid upon the transgressor and allotted to the informer. One person who had made himself liable to the fine, promptly delivered himself up on Monday morning, and thus evaded paying the prosecutor's fee.

In spite of all the pains-taking by the first settlers in watching and guarding their sheep, on whose wool they so much depended for clothing, the wolves found ways to outwit them, sometimes destroying twenty of one flock in a single night, though they were yarded near the house. After a time the Legislature passed an act giving a bounty of ten dollars for the scalp of a full-sized wolf, and five dollars for a young one. This stimulated the trappers and hunters to renewed energy and perseverance. There were several brothers by the name of Brown living at Great Bend, who sometimes devoted several days to hunting in the vicinity of the Salt Spring, and with great success.

One who was familiar with the sight of wolves speaks of them as "coarse, gray-haired, ugly looking things," and adds:—

"I wish I could describe their howl; but the best comparison I can give would be to take a dozen railroad whistles, braid them together, and then let one strand after another drop off, the last peal so frightfully piercing as to go through your very heart and soul; you would feel as though your hair stood straight on end if it was ever so long.

"The bears would take young lambs, pigs, and sometimes large hogs; and their embrace was fatal even to man. The flesh of the bear was considered good for food, something of the nature of pork, but more oily. The fat would never get hard like corn-fed pork, but was useful in many ways for cooking purposes, and also for light. For the latter purpose it was used by tying a penny in a white linen or cotton rag, and sinking it in a saucer of the oil, leaving the end a little above the surface to light. It would burn several hours and give a very good light. Pitch pine knots, split into small pieces, were used as a substitute for lamps and candles.

"Deer were very plenty and mischievous. They were very fond of garden

vegetables, beans in particular. Still they were a blessing rather than otherwise, for their meat was superior to that of any other wild animal; and, at times, families have subsisted on venison alone for days together. Their skins when tanned were very valuable, and were used for gloves, mittens, moccasins, 'trowsers,' and whip lashes. From their horns knife and fork handles were manufactured."

My informant continues thus:—

"One day, more than forty years ago, an old doe and two fawns came into our clearing or house lot. There was no road past the house at that time. One of the fawns became separated from the others, and I ran after it, caught it, and held it fast. He was very easily tamed, and soon became the pet of all the children in the neighborhood. He would run, frolic, blow and snort like a young horse, but, like the rest of his species, he was 'a turncoat'—first red spotted with white, then red entirely, and lastly had a coat of blue for the winter.

"The red, black, and gray squirrels were another pest; they were almost as thick as the frogs in Egypt. They would go into a field of grain, perch themselves on the charred stumps left in the clearing, quite near together, watch the wind and waves, and dexterously catch the heads of rye or wheat with their paws. They must have taken every tenth bushel. Then, when the grain was harvested and put in the barn, the rats would come in for their share. By stratagem, the children secured thirty large rats in a barrel, at one time, and drowned them in hot water.

"But with all the drawbacks and discouragements of our position, we still went ahead, though many of us had little more than willing hearts and hands with which to battle. Work was the order of the day. It was work on, work ever; hope on, and hope ever; and the sound of the ax, and the crash of the falling trees might be heard on every side.

"Mother and daughter considered it no disparagement or hardship to spin and work up into cloth all the flax and wool we could get, and the buzzing of the spinning wheel and the rattle of the loom might be heard in almost every house. Our labors were crowned with success, in-doors and out; and, after a few years, framed houses and barns took the place of log ones, and everything had the appearance of thrift, comfort, and convenience."

The post-office at Lawsville Center was established in 1830, and another at Brookdale about fourteen years ago. At the latter place there is a tannery, owned by Munson and Knight, consuming 3000 cords of bark annually. There is an establishment near there, styled the "Scotch Works," which uses 4000 cords of wood annually, in the manufacture, principally, of an acid used in setting the colors of prints. The sales are in New York city. The object in locating the manufactory in this section was because wood is cheap (\$3.00 per cord), as the best *hard* wood is required; soft maple, hemlock, and chestnut would be of no value. As, in making the acid, the wood is only *charred*, not burned, the sale of the charred wood nearly pays the expenses of the establishment. Perhaps \$15,000 is invested in the buildings.

There is one store at Brookdale—Beman's; and another at Lawsville Center—late Roger Kenyon's.

At the latter place there is a grist-mill and saw-mill; the first erected in the township, by Newton Hawley; and both now

owned by Lewis A. Tompkins. It is the only grist-mill, while there are six saw-mills in the township.

There are (1869) twelve school districts in Liberty, and the people pay a school-tax of \$2000, on a valuation of \$88,000 (one-eighth of actual amount). Within a few years there has been a rapid rise in real estate.

There has been no licensed tavern for ten years, consequently the town is orderly.

Elder John Webster, and branches of his family, were the original Baptists of the township of Lawsville, and were of the Free-will order. The "strict" Baptists seceded (have about sixty members), and have erected one of the finest churches in the county, at a cost of \$5500. Four contributors—Joseph and Watson Bailey, Stephen Dawley, and Roger Kenyon, Jr.—gave very nearly half that sum. It was dedicated in August, 1868. Garry Law, Reuben and Caswell Ives constitute the Presbyterian church committee (?).

The Union Sabbath-school at Lawsville Center has about seventy scholars and ten teachers.

A soldiers' aid society was sustained at the Center eighteen months during the war, or from its organization to the close of sanitary operations.

Among the very aged persons who closed their lives in Liberty—once its pioneers—may be mentioned Mrs. M. Nichols (forty-seven years the wife of Ashbel Upson, and the mother of ten of his children), who died October, 1860, in the ninety-third year of her age, at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. S. W. Truesdell. Retaining her mental faculties through life, she was able to relate many thrilling incidents of the Revolution, and other events of her childhood. Mrs. Hannah Webster died in 1870 in her eighty-seventh year.

Mrs. Ruth Stanford, at the time of her death (1871), was the oldest person in the township, eighty-six years of age.

Isaac Comstock, who came in 1823, died in Liberty, August, 1872.

CHAPTER XXI.

BRIDGEWATER AND MONTROSE.

At January sessions, 1805, the court of Luzerne County was petitioned by Thomas Parke and others to erect a township from parts of Tunkhannock, Braintrim, Nicholson, and Rush, to be called Bridgewater. Its dimensions were described thus:—

“Beginning at a point one mile above where Martin’s Creek empties into the Tunkhannock, thence northerly to the forks of Martin’s Creek, easterly from Bloomfield Milbourne’s, thence north to intersect the south line of Lawsville, thence on that line to the southwest corner of Lawsville, thence northerly to the State line, thence west to the thirty-second mile-stone, thence south till it shall intersect a line to be drawn due west from place of beginning.

On hearing the petition, Judge Rush directed the commissioners to return a plot, which they did, November, 1806, and the court then confirmed it. The original dimensions of Bridgewater included a small portion of what is now Wyoming County. Springville, Dimock, Lathrop, Brooklyn, Silver Lake, and portions of Forest Lake, Jessup, and Franklin have been taken from it.

It is more nearly the central township of the county than any other. Montrose, the county seat, is about four miles west of a central north and south line, and one mile north of an east and west line. The site of the court-house was located in 1811.

The township is a water-shed for three streams, the sources of which are in the vicinity of Montrose, and which in three different directions at length reach the Susquehanna River, viz., Snake Creek running north, the Meshoppen south, and the Wyalusing west and south. The Snake and Wyalusing Creeks, which rise within half a mile of each other, are probably one hundred miles apart at their mouths; but the Meshoppen, though running for many miles at nearly a right angle with the latter, falls into the Susquehanna but a short distance below it.

Hopbottom Creek is the outlet of Heart Lake on the east line of Bridgewater; it runs southwardly into Martin’s Creek, and eventually into the Tunkhannock.

Jones’ Lake, within a mile of Montrose, is the principal source of Snake Creek; Williams’ Pond, in the northern part of the township, is another, but inferior source of it. Cold Brook, near the line of Silver Lake, is a tributary of Silver Creek, which is itself a tributary of Snake Creek.

A small pond near the south line of Bridgewater has an outlet emptying into the Meshoppen.

Elevated as the township is, it is not more hilly than many another; there are not such deep valleys here as along the principal creeks farther from their source. The Milford and Owego turnpike, which was laid out diagonally across the township in 1809, sought the homes of settlers on the highest hills, plunging down one hill only to ascend another, and repeated the feat *ad nauseam*. As this was the great thoroughfare for years, it gave to Montrose and vicinity an unenviable reputation, which the recent plank road but half redeemed. Still, the

most objectionable portion of the latter is outside of the township, in the vicinity of Martin's Creek.

In 1811-1813 the Bridgewater and Wilkes-Barre turnpike was laid out over the high hills southward. Each hill-top can easily serve as a mile-stone until Dimock Four Corners is reached. At one point on this road—the location of Reuben Wells, 100 feet higher than Searle's Corner—a wide prospect is obtained, including a portion of Wayne County, on the northeast; and Campbell's Ledge, at the head of Wyoming Valley, on the south.

But there is no elevation in Bridgewater that can be dignified by the name of mountain.

The soil is naturally good, capable of producing all the crops generally raised in this latitude; such as wheat, rye, oats, corn, potatoes of excellent quality and large quantity. Grass is one of the staple products; the raising of stock and making of butter and cheese has been, of late years, very profitable for our farmers. The raising of sheep is not attended to as much as formerly.

When Susquehanna County was organized, Bridgewater contained five hundred taxables. About forty-five of these were set off with Silver Lake, sixty-six with Springville, and over eighty with Waterford; leaving about three-fifths of the list to Bridgewater.

The first settler within the present bounds of Bridgewater, was Stephen Wilson, a native of Vermont, who came from Burlington, Otsego County, New York, in March, 1799, and located about half a mile below the center of the present borough of Montrose. He was accompanied by his wife and children (David and Mason S.—the latter being then but nine months old), Samuel Wilson, his brother, and Samuel Coggs-well, brother of his wife. The party entered the log-cabin which Mr. W. had erected the previous fall, in one week, when he and others came to look for land.

Mr. Wilson's location became a landmark for the settlers who came in early in this century. His was the first house below the source of the Wyalusing, and the path leading from Hop-bottom and Nine Partners struck the stream at this point and followed it to its mouth, crossing it no less than eighteen times; in some places it was necessary for the rider to swim his horse.

His hospitality was extended to many a new-comer; whole families being sometimes entertained until their own cabins could be made habitable.

Until within a few years the debris of Mr. Wilson's house were to be seen on the upper corner of the Wyalusing Creek road, where it joins the Wilkes-Barre turnpike; but at present only an old apple tree, standing near, serves to mark the site.

His orchard was the first in Bridgewater, and he raised his apple trees from seed.

The first birth in the township was that of his daughter Almada (in 1800), who became the first wife of John Bard, Jr.

The first public library of the township had its nucleus beneath the humble roof of his second log-cabin, which stood about fifty rods south of the first. A little later, it sheltered the most accomplished linguist that ever resided in the county. (See Authors.)

Stephen Wilson's name appears in a document among the Luzerne County records, which is labeled "Rindaw Assessment for 1801. Rush Seated Property;" thus affording additional proof that Rindaw, as a Pennsylvania district, was far more extensive than the "Yankee" township of that name, including the Forks of the Wyalusing. The document weighs ten ounces, and the postage on it from the Forks to Wilkes-Barre was forty cents.

Mr. Wilson was one of the early commissioners of Susquehanna County. In 1819 he sold his farm to ——— Price, and removed to Wysox, and in 1823 to Alleghany County, New York, where he died April 15, 1848, aged seventy-six. His son Stephen remains there. Of the rest of his family, David was of the firm of Wilson and Gregory, who kept a small store near the south line of Montrose in 1816. Samuel C. was editor of the 'Susquehanna County Herald' in 1822. Robert is a lawyer in Chicago, and has presided over its criminal courts. Three daughters are still living. Mason S. Wilson is the only representative of the family in the county. He is also Bridgewater's oldest resident, never having been but temporarily absent, and the merchant of the longest standing.

Samuel Wilson, brother of Stephen, Sr., took up what has long been known as the Roberts farm; it joined the farm of J. W. Raynsford. He sold his improvement here and built a log cabin on the site of the Gregory tenant-house, and from there removed to another location in Bridgewater, where he remained some years after his brother left. He died in Wyoming County, where the youngest of his six sons now resides. All have left Susquehanna County.

Samuel Cogswell built his house a little west of Stephen Wilson, and within the "Connecticut township" of Manor, the line being between them. The land (afterwards the Park farm) was the greater part of a gore which Mr. W. took out from the State Land Office and sold to Mr. C. at twenty-five cents per acre, while lands of the Clymer estate just across the turnpike were selling at \$1.50 per acre.

Nehemiah Maine took up land under the Connecticut title in 1799, just east of the Reuben Wells homestead, but was not

long after located in Dimock. Samuel Maine lived a few years on the farm, since Joseph Butterfield's. David Doud lived on the Kingsley farm, but was probably soon after on the Wyalusing. His son-in-law, Miles Bunnell, lived near N. Maine. Mr. M. sold his right to B. Bostwick, who sold to R. Wells, Sr.

Before the close of 1799, Ozem Cook had settled beyond Messrs. Wilson and Cogswell, on the farm now owned and occupied by Moses S. Tyler. His location was in Manor.

In 1800, Captain Bartlet Hinds, an officer of the Revolution, originally from Boston, but then from South Hampton, Long Island, came into what is now Montrose, as an owner and agent of lands for ex-Governor Huntington, of Connecticut, under the title of that State.

He had in his company his step-son, Isaac Post, then sixteen years old; Robert Day, Daniel and Eldad Brewster, who settled in Bridgewater; Daniel Foster, John Reynolds (second time), and Ichabod Halsey, who settled in Jessup; and Frederick Loper, who did not remain.

They came by the way of Cherry Ridge, Nine Partners, and Hopbottom (now Brooklyn), at which points they found a few settlers. After leaving Hopbottom Creek, they were guided by marked trees and a slight path—no road. They arrived at Stephen Wilson's cabin at four o'clock P. M., on the 11th of May. Here Captain Hinds and son stopped for the night; the others went on three miles to the cabin of Messrs. Foster and Reynolds. They shoveled out the snow, provided hemlock boughs for bedding, and here most of them camped. Two or three went a few miles further to the cabin of Samuel Lewis, which stood a little below Dr. Cornwell's present residence.

Captain Hinds decided to locate on the present site of Montrose, and he was assisted by Robert Day and Isaac Post in building a log cabin on the ground now occupied by the residence of the late David Post, Esq., where they camped for the season, and commenced clearing away the dense forest. Directly north there was not a settler between Captain Hinds and the State line, but there were at least three or four families in Lawsville, nearly northeast from him. Captain Joseph Chapman and Colonel Thomas Parke, Martin Myers, and the Spencers, in Dimock and Springville, were the only families between him and Tunkhannock.

In the fall of 1800, he returned to Long Island, but came back in 1801 with his family, consisting of his wife (formerly the widow Agnes Post), with her two sons, Isaac and David Post, a daughter, Susannah, and son, Conrad, children of his former wife, and Bartlet, the only living child of his last marriage.

B. Hinds' family celebrated the first Fourth of July here

(1801) by cutting thirteen trees until they were just ready to fall, and so situated that a heavy stroke would precipitate one upon the other in one thundering crash, resembling the roar of cannon. Jason Torrey, now of Honesdale, then surveying in this wilderness, and knowing of no human being within miles of him, heard this astounding noise, and hurrying forward to ascertain the cause, found himself, with delighted surprise, in the midst of society and patriotism.

The trees were felled on land of the Post brothers, Isaac and David, the purchase being made for them by Captain Hinds from the avails of their father's estate, and is now covered by the borough of Montrose. Cold water toasts were drank on this occasion, one of which was "The United States! may their fertile soil yield olive for peace, laurel for victory, and hemp for treason!"

Bartlet Hinds was born at Middleboro', Mass., April 4, 1855. He was baptized into the Middleboro' Baptist church, when about sixteen years old, by his father, Elder Ebenezer Hinds, then its pastor; and was the first Baptist church-member that came into the county.

He had served as a soldier, as private and first lieutenant; and was breveted captain in the Revolutionary army. He was shot through the left lung at the taking of Burgoyne; was one of the "forlorn hope," claiming to have had command of the detachment at the storming of Stony Point, and first proclaimed "the fort is our own;" served to the end of the war, after being wounded, in castle duty.

He had a diploma entitling him to membership in the Society of Cincinnati, formed by the officers of the army, at the close of the Revolution.

For at least a dozen years after Captain Hinds brought his family here the place was known as "The Hinds Settlement." He was the first justice of the peace.

The Rev. A. L. Post, grandson of Captain Hinds' wife, relates the following:—

In 1801, while on a road view between his log dwelling and Lawsville, near the place of Joseph Williams' subsequent settlement, he met, much to the surprise of both parties, his old friend and fellow-officer of the Revolution, Col. Timothy Pickering, afterwards one of the most prominent men in the Union, who was surveying lands which he had purchased under the Pennsylvania title. It was about noon, and so, after the "How do you do?" Col. P. said, "Captain Hinds, will you take dinner with me?"

The latter replied, "I don't care if I do, colonel, if you can treat me to a fresh steak!"

"That will I do," the colonel replied, "if you will go with me to my cabin half a mile away;" and he conducted him thither, and entertained him in true soldier style.

After recounting some of the scenes of the war in which they had taken part, the colonel explained to Captain H. the whole matter of jurisdiction and land title after the decree at Trenton; told him of his own purchase, which he was then surveying, and satisfied him of the probability that the Pennsylvania title must hold good. He (Hinds) thereupon went to Philadelphia; subsequently fully satisfied himself that Col. Pickering was correct; found the owners of the land upon which he had settled; made his purchase, and returned. He was the first person in this section who became convinced of the validity of the Pennsylvania title, and yielded to its claims.

He was to "Manor,"¹ as to its civil polity, what Col. Hyde was to "Usher," the prominent man; and this fact accounts for the indignation that was visited upon the former after the step just mentioned. This was natural, and is not here referred to by way of reproach to any of the parties.

(Though reference has been made, elsewhere, to the mob, the following details given by Rev. A. L. Post will be of interest.)

It was probably late in 1802 that, under pretence of some kind, he was summoned before a justice in Rush. His brother, Abinoam Hinds, and Isaac Peckins (who settled here that year) went with him, expecting foul play. Whilst there a mob gathered and surrounded the house; but the three barricaded the door as best they could, and prepared for defence. The defences were forced away, and the mob entered, a number of them to be piled in an uncomfortable and bruised heap upon the floor. Isaac Peckins was a large, bony, and powerful man. Failing to break out one of the posts of an old-fashioned chair, he wielded the whole of it with great success against the intruders.

But, overpowered by numbers, the trio had to yield. A sort of sham trial resulted in the decision that Hinds should leave the country; but he refused to submit to the decision.

His age, his experience, his native shrewdness, and energy of character, and his piety withal, fitted him for a pioneer, and a prominent actor in all that pertained to the civil and religious interests of a new country. He was greatly valued as a counselor and faithful adviser.

He was a tall man, and, in early life, athletic, although slender. He had black hair, and a dark hazel eye set deep beneath a long black eyebrow.

My childhood-remembrance of him in the church meetings for worship in the old school-house (Wilson's school-house, as it was called in early times, from its nearness to Stephen Wilson's residence) is as he stood up behind a chair, making thoughtful, measured remarks; or, sitting with right elbow in his left hand, the right hand pulling his long eyebrows, appearing as if he could look into the soul of any upon whom his eye might light.

He lived to see all his children, and his wife's children, hopefully converted and baptized into the church, and all comfortably settled in life, except one, who, in the triumphs of faith, went before him to the spirit land. His own death occurred October 11, 1822, in the sixty-eighth year of his age. Mrs. Hinds died May 7, 1834. Her first husband was Isaac Post, of South Hampton, L. I.

Conrad Hinds, son of Captain Bartlet, by his first wife, lived in Bridgewater nearly sixty years. In 1810 he was baptized by Elder Dimock, and his after-life proved the sincerity of his faith.

He was ordained deacon of the Bridgewater Baptist church in 1829. The Bible was his study, and religion his theme at home and abroad. Hence, when others flagged he seemed most awake. In other respects he was rather retiring, and, next to his religion, home, the farm, and the deep wildwoods had most attraction for him. He lived until October, 1860, when his death was the last of the first family that located within the present limits of Montrose.

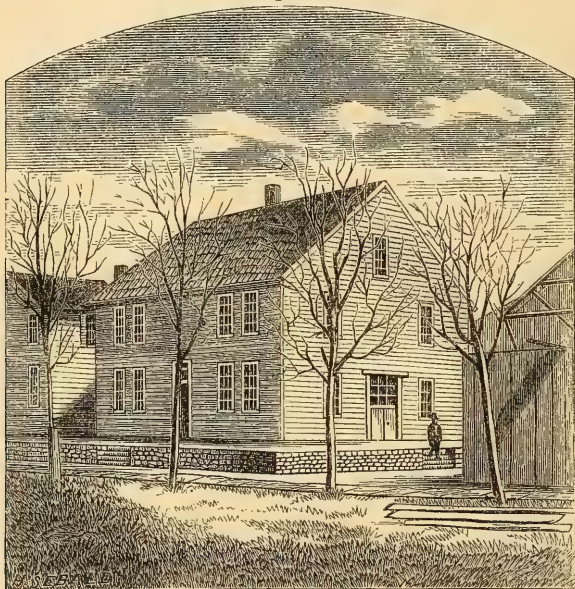
Isaac Post was born in South Hampton, L. I., August 12, 1784. During the first years after the arrival of the first family of settlers in Montrose he was the mill-boy, and often went down to the mouth of the Wyalusing, on horse-back, after flour and provisions. He was also the cow-boy and hunter; was depended upon mostly for venison; was acknowledged to be the best woodsman—surest to keep the points of the compass, and find his way home from the chase.

¹ The northeast corner of the Manor was somewhere between the lots now owned by J. D. Drinker and Walter Foster.

He chopped some acres of forest in the upper part of his place before any of the family discovered it, and when it was discovered Captain Hinds supposed some squatter had been trespassing upon his premises. Young Post had done this by hiding his ax, then taking his gun as if on a hunt, he would go to his chopping. As he often brought venison home at night, no one suspected his business.

He chopped down the first tree in Montrose; helped build the first log-house in 1800; built the first frame-house in 1806; the first store, and the first blacksmith-shop; was the first postmaster, March, 1808. He also built the first turnpike, 1811-14; ran the first stage; was the first treasurer of the county.

Fig. 18.



THE OLD POST HOUSE.

[The chimney was twice as large as shown in the cut. The adjoining buildings are modern.]

In 1812 he passed through military grades from ensign to major, and in 1811 was brigade inspector to July 1814, and, as such, had charge of the Danville expedition. He built the academy in 1818; the Baptist meeting-house in 1829; was a member of the State legislature in 1828-29; and associate judge of Susquehanna County courts from October 17, 1837, to Feb. 1843.

He was baptized into the Bridgewater Baptist church in 1810.

In 1814 he was challenged by a recruiting officer, Lieut. Findley, to fight a duel. He did not signify his acceptance, but Findley, on being told he could shoot a rooster's head off with a pistol, backed down and asked pardon.

Isaac Post gave the county all of the public grounds and half of the lots as marked on the first town plot.

There was not, during his life, a public improvement in which he did not have a prominent part as originator or promoter.

He was a prominent *Republican* (as the democrats were originally called), and, in 1817, was a delegate from this county to the convention at Harrisburg that nominated Wm. Findley for governor.



David Post

When in the legislature he secured the passage of an act making Susquehanna County a separate election district, when he knew this would defeat his re-election.

He was a Mason, but finally refused to meet with the fraternity because they appointed drunkards to reclaim drunkards. He ultimately became opposed to all secret societies. When one of his sons asked his advice about joining the lodge, he replied, "*One fool in the family is enough.*"

One incident is here taken from his diary, as illustrating his persistent courage in an emergency. Under date of January 2, 1815, he says:—

"Left Greene and reached the river (at Chenango Point) when the sun was two hours high. The boat being frozen in, the ferryman would not come over after me. I then took my clothes in my arms, got on my horse with my knife handy to cut the harness if necessary, and bounded into the river—cutter and all. A number of persons stood expecting to see me go down, but fortune favored me and I got over safe, and arrived home (twenty miles) about 12 o'clock at night."

Isaac Post married his step-sister, Susanna Hinds. She died November 15, 1846, aged sixty-four. Of their sons William L., Albert L., Isaac L., and George L., the eldest was the first male child born in Montrose, in 1807; he died while in the service of the government, at Washington, D. C., Feb. 26, 1871. With the exception of a few months, Montrose was his life-long residence, as it is now the resting-place of his remains. Born in the first and then half-finished framed dwelling-house of the town (*See Fig. 18*), he lived to see all of the changes which have since taken place, and to take a prominent part in making it all that it is to-day.

Of the six daughters of Judge Post, but one survives. He died March 23, 1855.

David Post, brother of Isaac, was two years his junior. He came into what is now Montrose, in 1801, and spent the remainder of his life within twenty rods of the first cabin he here entered. The two brothers cleared most of the forest which covered the place. They acted together in business matters, successfully and harmoniously; and were also together in all the improvements of the town and county.

D. Post was appointed a justice of the peace by the governor, and gave great satisfaction. He started the first furnace for casting iron in Montrose. He was among the number baptized into the Bridgewater Baptist church by Elder Dimock, in 1810. He took a prominent part in all matters pertaining to the interests of the denomination in this section of country to near the period of his death.

He was kind, generous, and social. He was a republican of the early and later times; a strong friend and supporter of free missions, and of the anti-slavery movement. In the settlement of difficulties in the community and in the church, in arbitrations and councils, his services were often sought.

He lived in three different houses, one of which was the first log-cabin in the place; the second, a small frame house, built by his step-father, just below our cemetery-hill, behind the row of poplars that still stand between the residence of I. N. Bullard and the first road leading to the cemetery.

To that house, now gone, he brought his bride—Minerva, daughter of Samuel Scott—in January, 1809, and there three of their eleven children were born. In 1814 he built the house so long known as his residence, at the foot of Main Street, the rear of which stands on the site of Capt. Bartlet Hinds' log-cabin, which had been scarcely more of a landmark to the first settlers of Bridgewater than Esq. Post's large, hospitable dwelling was to the first comers to the new county seat. It stands due north and south.

For thirty years or more the court judges made this their home during the sessions. Here several newly married people began housekeeping,

having the use of one or two rooms; bachelors and maidens and any homeless ones found it a kindly shelter.

Esq. Post and his wife passed more than fifty years of life together. He died February 24, 1860, in the seventy-fourth year of his age; she died Feb. 24, 1871, aged nearly eighty-one years. They had eleven children, of whom only five survive.

Robert Day was a man of determined purpose and of undoubted integrity. He was a Baptist church member, whose Christian life and profession dated from the "Great Revival" of 1810. He aided in the erection of the first grist-mill of Bridgewater, on the Wyalusing Creek, two miles below Montrose. Between that point and the borough he cleared a farm and erected buildings, where he resided until within a few years, when he moved into town, where he died June 26, 1865. A Christian patriot, loyal to the last, he lived to rejoice over the end of slavery and the rebellion.

In 1804 he married Hannah, daughter of Jedediah Hewitt. She died in 1815, leaving two children. By his second marriage he had two daughters. The only one of his children now living is H. H. Day, Esq., of Susquehanna.

The farms of Daniel and Eldad Brewster were those since occupied by Thomas Johnson (ex-sheriff and justice of the peace and recently deceased) and Horace Brewster.

Daniel Brewster served two years in the war of 1812. He removed many years ago, and died recently on Frenchtown Mountain, aged ninety-two.

Eldad Brewster married in 1815 Hannah, third daughter of Deacon Moses Tyler. He died December, 1831, leaving his widow with nine children, the youngest but five months old. The sons are Horace, Daniel, and Warren.

In 1800 Amolo Balch made a small clearing one and a half miles south of Stephen Wilson. In 1801 Joshua W. Raynsford, a native of Windham County, Connecticut, came to the clearing that had been begun by Amolo Balch. His log-house was by the spring near the present new road. It is said that Balch sold his improvement to Robert Day for a horse, and R. Day sold to J. W. Raynsford. Not one of them had any legal title to it, Balch having been indicted for intrusion early in 1801. J. W. Raynsford afterwards went on foot to Philadelphia to see the Pennsylvania landholder, and obtained from him a valid title. The farm was a desirable one, almost the only bit of table-land between Montrose and the present south line of Bridgewater. To this place, on which he had erected a log-cabin, Mr. Raynsford brought his family in the spring of 1802. They made their first meal on water cresses. A small tributary of the Wyalusing has its rise on the farm.

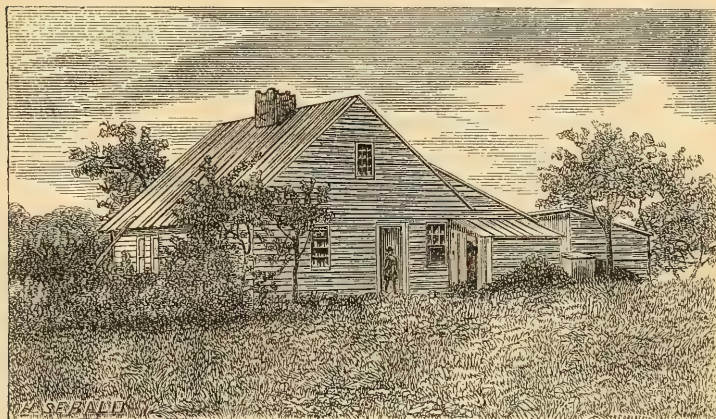
In the spring of 1802, he bought for fifty cents a half bushel of potatoes, and planted them with a handspike, and reserved the rest as a precious addition to a scanty larder. In the fall of the same year, all of his boots but the legs were worn out, and he went on horseback, barefoot, twenty-seven miles to procure leather for another pair.

Until 1803, the cabin, like all others in the vicinity, had only oiled paper for windows. Three days' absence from work (reckoned as worth fifty cents per day), while making the journey to and from Wilkes-Barre, where glass could be obtained, and where he procured *twelve panes* (7x9) for twelve shillings, made the coveted windows of four panes each, a costly outlay for those times. But his trip afforded his neighbors the opportunity of securing supplies of sugar, tea, etc., which he brought in his saddle-bags, in that spirit of accommodation which belonged to the early settlers, while the precious glass was carried by hand the whole distance. The cabin reached, the glass was deposited upon the bed, whilst the neighbors came in to get their share of the groceries purchased. After the proper measure had been given to each, for which the "steel-yards" had been in requisition, Mrs. R. thoughtlessly tossed them on the bed, and instantly shattered every pane of the dear-bought glass!

Joseph Raynsford, father of J. W. R., joined him in this wilderness not

long after, and erected a framed house, which is still standing, and is almost the only relic in the county of a style of houses built at that early period.

Fig. 19.



THE OLD RAYNSFORD HOUSE.

The door seen in the engraving opens into the room where the "first Congregational church of Bridgewater" (now Presbyterian church of Montrose) was organized, in 1810. In the mean time, J. W. Raynsford built a house a few rods north, with a porch or piazza on two sides—and here he resided several years; but only its crumbling foundation is now to be seen. He was appointed a justice of the peace about 1812; and had his office here until about 1817–18, when he moved into Montrose, having built the house now occupied by F. M. Williams. After a short time he built and removed to the house opposite the present residence of Jerre Lyons, to which was added a two-story office, since removed. Here his father died, July, 1832. His mother died in the old house previously.

A man of marked characteristics, the influence of Joshua W. Raynsford could not fail to be felt. He was active in the social, political, educational, and religious interests of the community. Upon his disconnection with the Presbyterian church, of which he was an early member, he became the chief instrument in the formation of the Episcopal church of Montrose. His habits of system and order were apparent in all his affairs. He kept a diary, from which, in his later years, he was accustomed to read for the pleasure of others many of the incidents of his pioneer life; it is unfortunate that it is not available for these pages, excepting a few items, which were taken down by his hearers. During his magistracy of thirty years, he had 36,680 suits before him, which are registered in twenty-four folio volumes; he took acknowledgments of one thousand deeds, and united one hundred and four couples in marriage.

He was twice married. His first wife, a daughter of Walter Lathrop, died, March, 1831, leaving six children; the three daughters are now deceased, and none of the sons reside within the county. The pall and bier were first used at Mrs. R's funeral. Mr. R. died suddenly, November 12, 1852, aged seventy-three. His widow died about two years afterwards.

In the winter of 1803–4, J. W. Raynsford had taught the first school within the present limits of Bridgewater, in a log house, about a mile southwest of Montrose, and had then forty-two scholars. This surprising number in so new a settlement will be accounted for as we return to the list of in-comers.

Elias West and family, from Connecticut, settled in 1801, on the farm that is now crossed by the north line of Dimock and the Wilkes-Barre turnpike.

David Harris and family, from Southampton, L. I., were on the Wyalusing, at the place already mentioned as the site of the first grist-mill. It is probable he began the mill this year, as he was taxed for one, but it does not appear to have been completed under two or three years.

Jonathan Wheaton and family, from Otsego County, N. Y., settled about half a mile east of Capt. B. Hinds. He was then the settler nearest to the lake, which, in consequence, was long known as Wheaton's Pond; but his cabin was on the site of a house, now reached by a road turning to the left from the foot of the hill, on the brow of which now stands the Methodist church. Like Capt. Hinds, Mr. Wheaton was a Baptist, and the two agreed with Daniel Foster, a Presbyterian (three miles away), to meet for religious worship every Sabbath; this was sacredly observed by the trio, from 1802 to 1807, when their number was greatly increased. But we anticipate.

Jedediah Hewitt, from Norwich, Conn., with his wife, son, and five daughters, settled next below Robert Day, on the Wyalusing.

Thomas Crocker, a native of Bozrah, Conn., came to look for land, made a small clearing and rolled up the walls of a house on what is now the Conklin farm in Dimock, in 1800. He then returned for his family, and, in 1801, had brought them as far as Barnum's, in Lawsville, when he was persuaded to remain and work for Mr. B. a year. On learning that the road to Tunkhannock would not pass the place he had selected the previous year, he gave it up. In 1802, he brought his family to the farm adjoining that of Elias West on the north. Here he remained until 1812, when he removed to the farm where he died, in 1848, in his eighty-third year. Mrs. C. died in 1844, aged seventy-five. They had eight children. Their sons were Hyde, Lucius, John S., Austin, and Daniel W.

In 1802, Samuel and John Backus, from Norwich, Conn., settled just below J. Hewitt, and the families were, for the second time, neighbors. Two of the daughters of Mr. H. were wives of the former, and another became the wife of R. Day. John Backus died February, 1871, in his ninety-fourth year.

Abinoam Hinds, a brother of the first settler in Montrose, and Isaac Peckins, brother-in-law of the former, came from Middleboro', Mass., and settled a little west and southwest of B. Hinds. A. Hinds bought of R. Day what has since been known as "Howell Hill." He died in Bradford County, February, 1849, aged eighty-four. His family is still represented here by his son, Major D. D. Hinds. Isaac Peckins died in May follow-

ing, at the same age; his widow, in February, 1852. His house is now within the borough limits, near the western line. It is said that Esther Peckins taught the first school in Montrose, in a barn.

A newspaper writer, under the heading of *A Drawn Battle*, says:—

“Over thirty years ago, the venerable Isaac Peckins thus narrated to me an adventure which happened about two miles northwest of Montrose:—

“One day I went out to cut an ox-yoke, in a little swale or swamp near the medder on your father's farm. The briers on the wet ground had grown up drefful thick, and taller than my head. Wal, I was chopping, when I heered a kind of growling and stirring among the bushes on ahead. I looked and see a little kind of sheep path that way. So I got down on my hands and knees—for I couldn't go straight—and crawled along under some ways. At last, I came to a round spot, about as large as this room. There wa' n't anything onto it, but the tall briers rose all around. Right on t'other end there was another hole which led out. Just as I popped up my head and stood straight, there stood a great black bear within three feet of me. He stood still, and looked right at me. I had left my ax behind, and had nothing to defend myself. I remembered an old hunter 't used to be around here, named Hale, who said there was no animal in this country that would touch a man if he looked at it straight in the eye. So I looked at him, and stepped towards him. He brussled up, and snarled, and stood still. I thought it was a ticklish place. I lifted up my voice and yelled and heowled as loud as I could. That seemed to set the creetur crazy. He heowled and tore the ground with his feet. I did n't know what would become of me. At last I took off my old hat, shook it, and ran at him. All at once he dropped his brussels, turned round, dropped his tail, and run out the other hole. I followed him, and was near enough when he went out to kick him behind. I had a good will to, but thought I was satisfied to get off as well, and I went back by my hole. Terrible great creetur!”

The fourth of July, 1802, was celebrated by a flotilla of log-rafts on the lake—young people all afloat together, singing, huzzaing, and afterwards enjoying a lunch.

Jacob Roberts, from Vermont, in 1803, bought of Samuel Wilson the first farm south of Stephen Wilson, and which has been occupied until recently by his son, Zina Roberts.

About the same time, Walter Lathrop and family came into the south neighborhood; thus, there were about a dozen families, besides those whose arrival preceded that of J. W. Raynsford, within the present limits of Bridgewater, when he taught; and, doubtless, families farther down the Wyalusing were represented in his school. It was not far from this time that the first death of an adult occurred—that of Mrs. Hyde, the mother of Mrs. Thomas Crocker.

Walter Lathrop's log-house stood on the spot now covered by an orchard, just below the house built within a few years by Silas Perkins. He afterwards built the small framed house, now gone, that stood just north of the latter, where he died in

1817, aged sixty-eight. Mrs. L. died in 1838, aged eighty-three. Their sons were Benjamin, Daniel, and Rodney who died at the West.

Benjamin Lathrop, late associate judge of the county, came with his father from Connecticut. He married a daughter of Asahel Avery, and located on that part of his father's farm which is now owned by Wm. Haughwort, where he resided many years before removing to Montrose, and where Mrs. L. died. They had five sons and one daughter, and by his second marriage he had one son, all residents of Montrose, except Benj. F., a physician, who died at the West. Judge Lathrop died July, 1861, aged seventy-seven.

Daniel Lathrop married a daughter of Jacob Perkins, and lived in the small house previously occupied by his father's family. Still later, he removed to the old Raynsford house, where he was gate-keeper on the turnpike; but, subsequently, he built the house now occupied by G. Decker, where he died July, 1842. He was twice married. Of his ten children, only two sons and one daughter (of Montrose) reside in the county.

Jacob Perkins removed from Dimock and lived opposite the last residence of Daniel Lathrop, where he died in 1846, aged eighty-two. His widow died in Montrose in 1851, aged eighty-four.

In the spring of 1804, John Bard and Zebulon Deans came in, on foot, from Lebanon, Windham Co., Conn., and selected farms adjoining. They then returned to Connecticut, but brought in their families in the fall. Each had a span of horses, but they were two days in coming from Great Bend, as they were obliged to cut brush to clear the road before them. They arrived the 4th of October. The Bard family stopped at the house of Walter Lathrop; the Deans at that of Thomas Crocker. Both began immediately to roll up log-houses.

It was not until 1810 that J. Bard (commonly called captain) occupied the farm of Thomas Crocker; he first cleared the farm at present owned by Perrin Wells. He brought in six children; John, now dead, was the eldest; Samuel, our respected townsman, was then eight years old; the children at length numbered eleven, two of whom died when young men, within two weeks of each other. Captain Bard died in 1852, aged seventy-nine; Mrs. Bard, "a great worker," lived to be ninety, and died in 1863.

Mr. Deans built his first house this side, or east of Mr. Bard, on the site of the red house for many years occupied by his son James, but which has since been burned; his framed house, with rived clapboards, was erected in 1814, on the Wilkes-Barre turnpike, a little below the late residence of J. F. Deans, south of the graveyard. That too is gone; it resembled the Raynsford house now standing, and like that, around it cluster asso-

ciations dear to every early Presbyterian or Congregationalist of the township.

The family of Mr. Deans consisted, in 1804, of his wife (a sister of Thomas Crocker) and two sons, Orimel and James—the latter ten years old the day they reached Great Bend—and two daughters. Their first thanksgiving-dinner here consisted of potatoes roasted in ashes, with salt.

Zebulon Deans was a carpenter and joiner, and built the first Presbyterian church in Montrose. He joined this religious body at its first communion, was elected deacon in 1812, and became a ruling elder, which offices he held until his death in 1848, in the seventy-eighth year of his age. His wife died in 1851, in her eightieth year. They had four daughters and three sons. The eldest and the youngest (John F.) have removed from the county; James, also a Presbyterian elder, died in Montrose, September, 1865, aged seventy-one.

In November, 1804, Benajah McKenzie came from Lebanon, Windham County, Connecticut, and selected his farm—the same occupied by him until within a few years—in the extreme southwest corner of the present bounds of the township. Captain Bard and Mr. McK. went twenty miles to Merryall the first winter for grain, and had it ground there, at Black's mill. The site of this mill is a little above the present mill of Elisha and J. E. Lewis, two and one-half miles below Camptown, near the mouth of the Wyalusing. It was a common thing to go that distance to get grain ground, and indeed this place was the nearest for the purpose, to all in this vicinity, whenever Harris' or Griffis' mills were out of order or were too full of work.

Mr. McKenzie worked for Joab Picket in 1805, and was there while the Pennsylvania surveyors were trying to run their lines on lands which were claimed under the Connecticut title. Holders under the latter did not hesitate to take their guns and shoot to intimidate the surveyors, and for a time embarrassed their operations.

During the eclipse, June 6th, 1806, Mr. McK. was chopping in the woods where the graveyard now is, near the south neighborhood church; it grew so dark he was compelled to stop work and he went up to the log school-house, which had been erected in 1805 on the same side of the road, near the top of the hill, just below the present residence of R. Wells. Isaac A. Chapman taught the first school there. Prior to this a log school-house had been built and used on the Stroud place. The next school-house was built near the graveyard, also on the west side of the road, on nearly the same site as the one that was left standing twenty years ago.

Mr. McKenzie was once returning from Brooklyn late at night, and, reaching the Meshoppen, he wearied himself in

searching for means to cross it. The weather and water were cold, and this, or the depth of the latter, prevented him from wading. At last he espied a tree growing on the opposite shore, which was so much inclined over the stream, that he caught a twig of one of the topmost branches, and proceeding hand-over-hand, he reached the other side.

He was married November, 1810, to Sabrina, daughter of Ezra Tuttle, of Springville. She died in 1851. Four of their sons reside at the west, one in Scranton, and one son and two daughters in Montrose; two daughters are dead, and one son, Charles, was killed while in the Union service.

Mr. McK. cleared one hundred and twenty-five acres of his own farm, and fifty-three of that of his father-in-law.

Late in life he sold his farm, and purchased a house and lot in Montrose. Just before his death, which occurred February 9th, 1872, in his eighty-eighth year, he was the oldest man in the borough, the member of longest standing in the Presbyterian church, and was held in honor by all.

Edward Fuller, whose wife was a sister of Elias West, came from Connecticut, with his family of five children in 1806, and located on the upper part of the farm of the latter. He understood making "wrought" nails, and this of itself was sufficient to make his advent a blessing to the community. He built a large frame house, two stories in front, with a porch, and a door opening on it from the second story; while the rear was only one story. It became a central point, being the place for holding elections; and, from the Christian character of Mrs. Fuller, the place where the early religious meetings were held. As yet, not a man of the south neighborhood was a professed Christian. Determined to impress upon her children her estimate of the Sabbath, she always dressed them in their best that day, even if that were no more than a clean apron to each one. They learned to be less boisterous than on week days; so, praying mothers could meet and sing "the songs of Zion," and occasionally listen to a sermon read by Mr. Fuller or Mr. Raynsford.

Here the family resided until 1812, when Mr. Fuller having received his appointment as sheriff, removed to the county seat, and kept the hotel built by I. Post, for one year, before entering the one described on a later page.

He died in Montrose April, 1854, in his eighty-sixth year. Mrs. Fuller, the last survivor of the original ten members of the Presbyterian church, died in Scranton, December 14, 1861, also in her eighty-sixth year. Her funeral was the first service in the new Presbyterian church in Montrose. Her surviving descendants then numbered six sons (Charles, Edward, George,

Henry, Francis, and Isaac) and two daughters, thirty grandchildren, and seventeen great-grandchildren.

Alba Cornwell, Jr., came in from Connecticut "the fall before the great snow," and lived with Stephen Wilson through the winter. In what is now Montrose there were then but two buildings.

He was soon after joined by his father, and they settled north of Jones' Lake (or Wheaton's Pond, as then called), on the place since occupied for many years by Timothy Warner, and now the farm of Charles Lathrop. The father and son built the "Newburgh turnpike," from New Milford to Mount Pleasant.

Alba Cornwell, Sen., removed, after a few years, out of the township. Alba, Jr., went to the Wheaton farm, where he died in 1815. He made the first clearing on "the Mulford farm." His widow came to Montrose with her son, now Dr. N. P. Cornwell, of Jessup, and her two daughters, and lived in a log-house built for her opposite the present residence of Mrs. Fanny Lathrop. She died April 12, 1852.

About 1806, Nathaniel Curtis, Sen., was the pioneer of East Bridgewater. Originally from Connecticut, he had located for a time in Herkimer County, N. Y., and came from there with his five sons, Nathaniel, Jr., Harvey, Warren, Daniel, and Ira, all of whom remained many years in the township. Harvey went West in 1837. Daniel came to Montrose before its incorporation as a borough, and built what was then considered a commodious hotel, and kept a popular house. It forms the nucleus of the Tarbell House. His wife was a daughter of Major Ross, of Rush. They moved to the West about 1841, where Mr. C. died in 1862. Nathaniel Curtis, Sen., died a few years later; Nathaniel, Jr., died May, 1850.

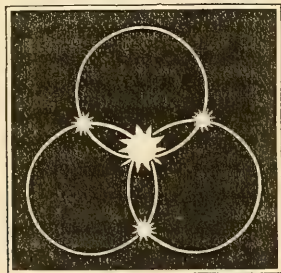
During the winter of 1806-7, Henry Congdon, Asa and Samuel Baldwin, from Salisbury, N. Y., arrived in the settlement, and located a mile or two north of Bartlet Hinds. They browsed their cattle where the court-house now stands. John and Benjamin Fancher located in March still further north. These families were permanent settlers. The heads of the first two were among the constituent members of the Baptist church of Bridgewater, now Montrose. Henry Congdon died here in 1841, aged eighty-two; B. Fancher in 1840, aged sixty-four; S. Baldwin in 1870, aged eighty-five.

Nathan Brewster, a native of Massachusetts, and Simeon Tyler, a native of Vermont (who had married a sister of the former), came in together from Connecticut, February, 1807, with their families, ten persons in all, and all halted for five weeks at the house of Joseph Raynsford, whose only daughter was the wife of Nathan Brewster.

Simeon Tyler began preparations for building a log-house large enough to accommodate his own and Mr. Brewster's family. Mr. B. was laid aside from work, having cut his foot in getting out boards. But at length, when all was ready, the great "snow-storm" delayed their removal until some time in April.

This storm, to which reference is made by aged persons nearly as often as the great eclipse, occurred on the last day of March and the first day of April, 1807. Before the storm, Mr. McKenzie and others observed a peculiar appearance of the sun; it was surrounded by three very bright circles (probably more haze-like than is shown by the diagram), and where they crossed on the outside were three luminous bodies, called "sun-dogs."

Fig. 20



SUN-DOGS, 1807.

For several days, it was with the greatest difficulty that any locomotion was possible—snow-shoes being requisite for safety.

The cabin of Mr. Tyler was three miles from Mr. Raynsford, being at the northern foot of the first hill, due north of Montrose, one of the very longest and steepest of our hills. The season did not allow them to put up a chimney, and, until the frost was out of the ground, a hole in the roof was made to serve the purpose for *two* fires. Cooking was done on each side of a central pile of logs, and blankets served as a partition between the two families. Mr. Tyler had five children, and Mr. Brewster only one, a son, Nathan Waldo; Waldo being the maiden name of Mrs. B.'s mother, Mrs. Joseph Raynsford. And here it may be fitting to refer to the manner in which this section gathered in its settlers. The Brewsters were drawn here by the Raynsfords; Simeon Tyler by his connection with the Brewsters; the Raynsfords, by the fact that J. W. Raynsford's wife was a daughter of Walter Lathrop, who had settled on the Wyalusing in 1800. This is but an instance of what

occurred in other family connections, as in the case of the Hewitts and Backuses, and the settlers from Long Island.

In the fall of 1807, Nathan Brewster built a comfortable log-house directly opposite that of Mr. Tyler, on the site of the large framed house in which he afterwards lived for many years, and where he died. Both houses were near the source of one of the minor tributaries of the Wyalusing. In the swamp not far from them, Mr. Brewster lost, during the first season, one of the horses of a pair he brought into the county. There was no feed for horses, except as they browsed, and it was the custom to attach a bell to their necks that they might be found when wanted. In this case, though diligent search was made, no sound of the missing horse was to be heard. At length, weeks after, it was found mired *to the neck*, and had starved to death.

Mr. Tyler had brought a yoke of oxen, but, soon after the loss of Mr. B.'s horse, one of the oxen was killed by the fall of a tree. Thus the two farmers, at the outset of their pioneer life, were crippled in their efforts to subdue the wilderness. But Mr. T. finally succeeded in bartering off the ox for another horse, and thus a team was secured which was used in common by the separate owners.

Simeon Tyler died July, 1850. He had eleven children, of whom the eldest, Harvey, has been our late representative at Harrisburg.

Nathan Brewster had nine children, of whom only three sons and three daughters lived to adult age. He died March 7, 1847, aged 66; his widow in 1850.

James Train, who lived in the vicinity of Montrose until his death in 1845, arrived at Stephen Wilson's "in the great snow."

Samuel Fessenden arrived during the same storm; he located for a time near J. Meacham, but afterwards near Joseph Backus, in Western Bridgewater. His son Henry, years after, bought a part of the old Doud farm between R. Kingsley and Joseph Butterfield. He died in 1847.

S. B., son of Samuel Fessenden, a resident of Bridgewater, now eighty years of age, when fourteen years old rode on horse-back from his father's to near the mouth of the Wyalusing Creek, and worked in the harvest field until he earned grain sufficient for a *grist*, took it to the nearest mill, and when ground returned safely home. When twenty-one years of age he was at work by the month near the foot of Jones' Lake, when a deer came bounding down the hill, jumped a descent of fifteen feet into the water, when he pursued and caught it around the neck, holding on with a will, until assistance came, when the deer was killed and dressed.

We have now reached an important period in the history of Bridgewater. From a historical discourse delivered by Rev. A. L. Post, fifty years later, we glean the following:—

“An incident in the providence of God which makes it sure that ‘It is not in man that walketh to direct his steps,’ brought Elder Davis Dimock from Exeter (Luzerne County), on a visit to this place—then known as the ‘Hinds Settlement.’ It was this: Captain Bartlet Hinds, then its principal settler, and, by the way, a member of the Middleboro’ (Mass.) Baptist church, in the early spring of that year went to Wilkes-Barre on business. While there, he was told that there was to be preaching, at evening, in the court-house, and without knowing anything of the person who was to preach he went to hear. As the narrative of another day runs, the preacher was in the prime of young manhood, and personally prepossessing, having a square-built athletic frame, a fine smooth countenance, a dark brilliant eye, musical voice, and quick fancy. He announced his text, ‘The blood of Jesus Christ, his son, cleanseth us from all sin;’ and spoke with a life, pathos, and animation that commended both the gospel and the preacher to the hearers, and especially to the one here introduced. That hearer took the young preacher into his heart and resolved to secure a visit from him to his wild-wood home. The preacher, by invitation, went to General Ross’ to tarry for the night. Being an old friend of the general, Captain H. followed. An introduction and nearly an all-night interview, resulted in an agreement on the part of Elder Dimock, for he was the young preacher, to visit (D. V.) the Hinds Settlement, on the twenty-ninth of the month (March, 1807). On that day, after a horseback ride, through forest paths, from Harford, where he had preached to a small Baptist church, the day previous, Elder D. reined his horse up to the door of the log-cabin of ‘Father’ (a cognomen more generally used by him) Hinds, and received a most cordial welcome.

“Here, after taking refreshments, he preached to the people, who had generally gathered from all the surrounding country, the first gospel sermon ever preached in the settlement. A deep interest was felt and a strong desire expressed by many that he should remain another day and preach to them another sermon. To this he consented; but with the next day came a storm known as ‘the great snow storm,’ in which the snow fell to the depth of four feet on the level. This detained him full a week; during which time he preached several sermons to the people, who turned out on snow-shoes and otherwise as best they could, to hear. Before leaving, as he did on the next Monday after his arrival, he was induced to promise future visits in the course of the season. This he did, making the place twice in his circuit from Exeter to Harford and Wyalusing. At one of these times he baptized two persons, probably the first ever baptized in the county. These visits were the source of great comfort and encouragement to the few disciples who were scattered in these wilds; so much so that they began the holding of regular weekly meetings for prayer and conference, instead of occasional ones as formerly. The final result was the establishment of a little church, in 1808, under the name of the Bridgewater Baptist church, and the settlement of Elder Dimock as its pastor in 1809. He moved his family into the settlement June 17th of that year. From that time, this place became the central point of his labors.” [See later page.]

In July, 1807, Samuel Scott and family, from Long Island, settled in the north neighborhood.

Asa Baldwin married S. Scott’s eldest daughter, who is still living in Montrose; her husband died over fifty years ago, leaving her with eight children. Mr. Scott died April, 1835, in his seventy-sixth year. He had eleven children, and only one a son,

Nehemiah, who was a member of the Baptist church over forty years, and long one of its most active deacons. Activity was characteristic of the man.

A newspaper writer says: "It was claimed by his father that the son, when twenty-one years old, mowed four acres in half a day."

He married a daughter of Elder D. Dimock, and had a large family. He died in September, 1870, aged seventy-four years.

A daughter of Samuel Scott was once lost two days in the woods.

"While searching for her, Elder Dimock lost his watch. The next season the late Mr. Samuel Baldwin, while looking for cows, found the watch hanging on a bush. A small twig having run through the links of the steel chain had taken it from the pocket unnoticed.

"The same men were out hunting deer; the former hearing footsteps and seeing signs of something moving in the direction, raised his rifle, and when just upon the point of shooting, saw an object move, more of the appearance of a hat than a deer's head, and instantly dropped his rifle to the ground. It was a hat, and on the head of Mr. Baldwin. The effect was such upon Elder Dimock that he never went hunting afterwards."

Thomas Scott, brother of Samuel, was also here in 1808.

In March, 1808, Scott Baldwin and wife came to the farm adjoining that of Simeon Tyler on the north, and lived for sixty years on the same spot. They were originally from Connecticut, but moved to this place from Montgomery County, N. Y. From a statement made by Mr. Baldwin just fifty years later we copy the following:—

"We had but one dollar in money left when we got here. We had to work out part of the time for a living, and the rest of the time for our place. Our house was a log-house, the floor made of slabs split out of trees, the windows made of sticks crossed and paper put on them for glass. The nearest grist-mill was three miles off, and we had to go farther sometimes, and carry our grists on our backs. At one time we had to pay \$1.62 for rye, and that we had ground without bolting. When our bread was almost gone, we had to lay some by for the children, and go without ourselves. Day after day we had to depend on our guns for meat. For tea, we used spicewood.

"We used to make deer-licks by putting salt in certain places in the woods. One time I went to the place where I had put salt, and saw a very large deer-track. I climbed a tree, some thirty or forty feet high, with my gun. Before dark I tied my gun to a limb of the tree, pointing it, as near as I could guess, where the deer would come. There I sat, all night, until daylight, but no deer came. I thought I would not give it up so, and tried it again. The third night I sat on the tree as before until the cock crowed for morning. I then heard something coming. It proved to be a deer. He came to the lick, I fired, and when I came down from the tree, found I had killed a very large buck. We then had meat again.

"In the fall we got out of salt, and there was but one place we could get it, and there only, at the price of \$3.00 per bushel. I had nothing to buy it with, and concluded to see what hunting would do. I took my gun, went out into the woods, and found a bear that had gathered a large quantity of chestnuts, I shot it, took its skin, and with it bought a bushel of salt.

"Brother Samuel and myself went to Dr. Rose's for work. He gave us the job of clearing out the road between us and Silver Lake. We had to go from six to eight miles to our work. Our living was corn-bread and dried venison. Our bed, hemlock boughs, with leaves for covering.

"There were settlers about six miles this side of Binghamton, and, on this end of the road, for about four miles north of Montrose; between them were dense woods, the path being only marked trees."

Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin lived together sixty-four years, and reared a family of twelve children, of whom one is at present associate judge of the county, and there was not a death among them until all were over thirty years of age, when the youngest, Isaac, was killed during the late war, at Springfield, Missouri. Mr. Scott Baldwin died January, 1869, in his eighty-first year. Samuel Baldwin's family was also large, and, at one time, the two brothers were obliged to pay two-thirds of the salary of the school teacher as their due proportion.

Noah Baldwin, the father of Asa, Samuel, and Scott, came in from Connecticut a little later, with his fourth son, Matthew, who is still living in East Bridgewater. He lived to be eighty-two years old, and his funeral was the first held in the old Presbyterian church, of which he was a member. His wife died in 1842 aged eighty-six.

Simeon Cook and Richard Daniels settled on the North road, in 1808.

Luther Dean came from Braintrim, the same year, and settled two miles west of Montrose, on the Owego turnpike. A beautiful double row of maples mark his location. He was one of the constituent members of the Baptist church. He died in Sept. 1813, and was the first adult buried in the village cemetery. Of his seven children, Mrs. N. H. Lyons is the only one now in the county.

Moses Tyler, an older brother of Simeon, and a native of Massachusetts, came from Wilmington, Windham County, Vt., in the spring of 1808, not then anticipating to find a home in this section; but, stopping in the south neighborhood to spend the Sabbath, it became known that he was a Congregationalist, and one ready to take an active part in a prayer-meeting. The circle of Christian mothers that had met from one Sabbath to another without the presence of a man to lead their devotions, now importuned him to bring his family to the settlement and remain to aid in sustaining religious services. Deeming this an indication of Providence, Mr. Tyler relinquished his intention of going farther west, and returned to Vermont. In the fall of that year he came with his wife and nine children, all girls but one, Moses C., late associate judge; and was accompanied by Samuel Davis and his family, which was also large, and all his children, but one, were boys. The party came in *via* Great Bend. Mr. Edward Fuller happening there on business,

met them, and hastened home with the joyful news, "Moses and the children of Israel are coming through the wilderness."

Mr. Tyler stayed with all his family at the house of Stephen Wilson until he finished a log-house on what is now the Jessup farm, not far from the old brick-yard. He bought of the Pennsylvania landholder, J. B. Wallace. Afterwards, when the county was set off, the lands donated to it covered part of his tract. He received some indemnity for his improvements, and removed to the farm in Dimock which is now owned by John Wright. He moved back some years later, near his old location, to a small house that occupied the site of Dr. J. Blackman's present residence. Later, he resided again on a farm, just south of Stephen Wilson's old place, until his last removal to the home of his son, in Montrose. He was a deacon of the Presbyterian church many years. He died April, 1854, aged eighty-eight; Mrs. T. in 1856, over eighty. They had twelve children. While living by the brick-yard (then only a swamp), Mrs. Tyler went to visit Mrs. Wheaton, when she met a bear, sitting on his haunches and staring her in the face. She screamed and struck the brushwood, when the bear turned and walked quietly away, and she proceeded on her errand. The young men at Wheaton's were hunters, and, on hearing her story, they went in pursuit of the bear and dispatched him.

Mrs. Porter, a daughter of Jonathan Wheaton, taught the first school near the house of Stephen Wilson, in April, 1809. She had six scholars so young that they were obliged to have blankets on which to take their naps. In the winter of 1809 and 1810, the school was taught by J. W. Raynsford.

Samuel Davis built his log-cabin on a part of the farm of Phineas Arms, near the present north line of Dimock, and which is now owned by F. Wells.

Phineas Arms came in the spring of 1809. A few years later he left his place to be gate-keeper on the Wilkes-Barre turnpike, near Benj. Lathrop, leaving his place to his son Phineas. He was one of the first deacons of the Presbyterian church. He removed to Bradford County in 1838.

Phineas Warner settled on the North road in 1809.

Obadiah Green was on the northwest part of Isaac Post's old village farm, where he made a little clearing, and was connected with the first ashery on the stream below Sayre's old ashery. He was afterwards on the Jos. Watrous farm. He was born in West Greenwich, Kings County, R. I., Feb. 5, 1772, and died in Auburn, Susquehanna County, Oct. 17, 1860, aged eighty-eight years.

Edmund Stone, prior to March, 1809, was on the Kingsley farm. A few years later, when Mrs. Stone was returning through the woods from a meeting at the South school-house, on horse-

back, a panther leaped for the child she held in her arms, but, missing his aim, passed over the horse's head. Mr. Stone's death, in 1814, was the first that occurred among the members of the Presbyterian church.

Adrian and Caleb Bush, and Joseph Beebe, purchased lands near Montrose about 1809-12; their descendants still reside in the vicinity.

In June, 1809, Elder D. Dimock removed from Exeter to Bridgewater, with his wife and five children, all on horseback, five horses accommodating the family; while a cart load of goods for them was brought in by A. Hinds. Dr. R. H. Rose had given him, as the first pastor of a church on his lands, one hundred acres, and the church gave him one hundred more, on the North road; and he occupied this place until June, 1815, when he removed to the hill on the same road, overlooking the village; and his eldest daughter with her husband, Nehemiah Scott, occupied his first location. Elder D. was accustomed to relate with glee that for his first marriage fee he received a bunch of goose quills. Before detailing further account of his life here, we return to a sketch of his previous career, given in the discourse to which reference has already been made:—

"ELDER DAVIS DIMOCK was born at Rocky Hill, Hartford County, Conn., May 27th, 1776. His parents were David and Sarah Green Dimock. His father at the opening of the Revolutionary war entered the service first as a sergeant, and afterwards as lieutenant of the Continental army.

"He, with his mother and three brothers, on the opening of the war, were taken as a measure of safety into Vermont.

"At the close of the war the family returned to Connecticut, and resided at Norfolk until the year 1790, when with the tide of emigration from Connecticut they came into the Wyoming Valley, and settled at Wilkes-Barre.

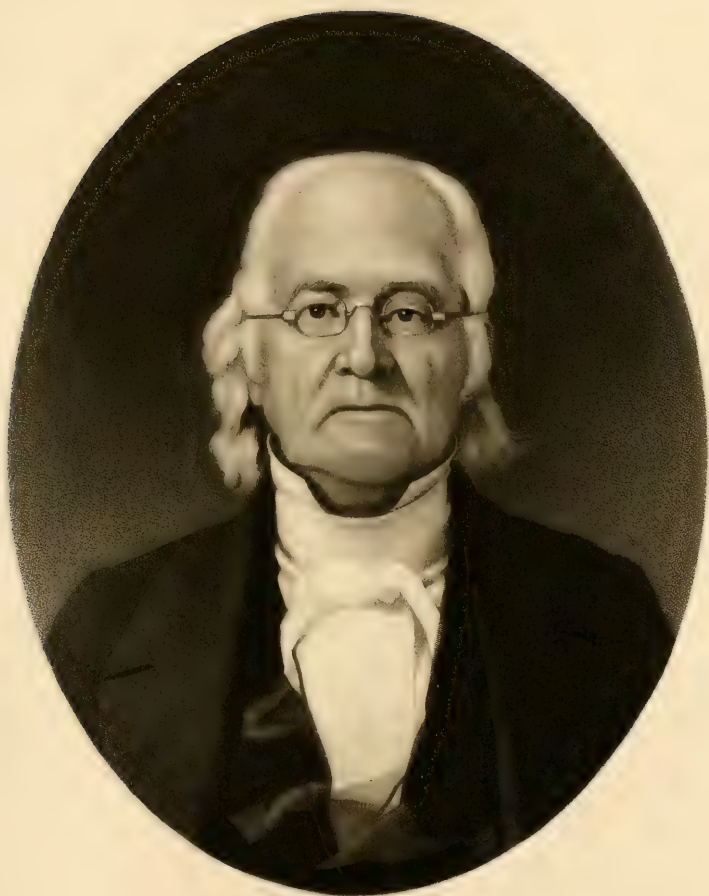
"The subject of this sketch was then fourteen years of age.

"To a compact, symmetrical, and truly admirable physical organism, there was added a pleasing personal address. To an extremely social nature there was added an almost unbounded and attractive humor. To a quick perception of the relation of things, and the workings of human nature, there was added an ambition that knew no bounds but those of patriotism and honor. And to a heart unsanctified by the Divine Spirit, and that had come to drink in, quite deeply, infidelity to Christ and the Bible, there was added a purpose to gain and enjoy as much as possible of the world's pleasures, riches, and honors.

"With these developments he labored on the farm and in the workshop; improved the scanty opportunities in his reach to gain knowledge by attending and teaching common schools; and was active in all of the political and other gatherings of the people. All seemed bright before him.

"On the 5th of June, 1797, he was united in marriage to Betsey Jenkins, of Tunkhannock, who became the mother of his twelve children, and the beloved and faithful partner of his toils and privations, as well as his hopes and enjoyments, during fifty-five years of his earthly pilgrimage.

"In 1801, while living in Exeter with his young family, toiling for and rapidly acquiring wealth—carrying on at the same time the business of farming, blacksmithing, and distilling ardent spirits—he was arrested in his career, and by the power of divine Grace his proud heart was made to yield to the



David Dimockey

requirements of the law of faith in an atoning sacrifice, and changed at once all of the plans and purposes of his life.

"He was received and baptized into the Exeter Baptist church, August 9th, 1801, by Eld. Jacob Drake, the pioneer Baptist minister of the valley. Heeding the great commission which seemed directed to him—'Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature,' turning back upon place proffered in legislative halls, he commenced preaching that Jesus whom he had persecuted, and that resurrection which, in the scepticism of his heart, he had repudiated. His first sermon was blessed by the divine Spirit in leading his companion to embrace Christ as her only hope.

"In 1803, at the yearly meeting of the Apocalyptic number of Baptist churches, then called the Susquehanna Baptist Connection, he was formally ordained to the ministry, by the imposition of the hands of the elders, and soon came to occupy a prominence which made him the master spirit of the Connection.

"The incident connected with his call to Bridgewater has already been given. Upon his settlement he engaged earnestly in ministerial work.

"In 1810, under his labors, occurred what was afterwards known as 'the great revival,' in which fifty-two, mostly by baptism, were added to the number of the church. The influence spread into the settlement from fifteen to twenty miles around, and he followed it up with an energy and zeal that knew no bounds but impossibilities. Often might he have been seen, on his horse, threading his way from settlement to settlement, along forest paths, over hills, and through valleys, sometimes guided only by marked trees. Here or there, where he found a hut or log cabin, he was wont to stop, if but for a moment, to minister a word of admonition or cheer to its sinning, sick, or disconsolate inhabitants. He soon came to be everywhere known, and a welcome visitor.

"He had studied medicine in his earlier years; and on coming here when there was no physician, his medical services were often required and given. Finding it an aid rather than detriment to his gospel ministry, he continued more or less to practice successfully during subsequent life.

"Not deeming it inconsistent with his ministerial office, nor an infringement upon his pastoral duties, he accepted, through the general solicitation of his fellow citizens, from the hands of the governor, an appointment of associate judge of the then new county of Susquehanna. In this capacity he served successfully and honorably, from the time of the organization of the judiciary, during the term of twenty-seven years.

"He organized churches in Auburn, Rush, Middletown, Chocanut, Great Bend, Harford, New Milford, Jackson, Gibson, Dimock, and possibly elsewhere.

"Eld. Dimock was the sole pastor of the Bridgewater church, from its organization in 1808, down to June, 1835, a term of twenty-seven years. At the close of that period, notwithstanding deaths and removals, the church numbered 322 members.

"At the expiration of his sole pastorate of the church, by his own request, Eld. J. B. Worden became associated with him. This relation continued two years; when from the infirmities of age and disease, and a desire to retire from the exciting scenes of a new era in the church, he resigned his relation, took a letter from this, and united with the church at Braintrim, having previously received a call to become its pastor. As pastor of that church, he labored, according to the measure of his health and strength, witnessing many tokens that those labors were not in vain, until the fall of 1847, when admonished by physicians, and his personal consciousness of what a long life of labor and privation, as well as disease, had wrought upon his wonderful constitution, he resigned the pastorate to another.

"In the spring of 1848, he returned with his companion to Montrose to reside the remainder of his days with his children. He reunited with this

church and supplied occasionally its pulpit; lived to enjoy and deepen the interest of its semi-centennial anniversary."

Mrs. Dimock died December 1st, 1852, aged 72. Elder Dimock died September 27th, 1858, aged 82 years and 4 months.

They had twelve children, two of whom died in infancy; three daughters married and settled in the vicinity, and one died young. Of their sons who lived to adult age—Benjamin, Davis, Asa G., John H., David and Gordon Z.—only two are now living.

Hon. Davis Dimock, Jr., was an early editor in the county, and a politician of influence. He died while a member of Congress, January, 1842.

Jonathan Vaughn, from Arlington, Vt., settled in Bridge-water, February 18, 1810, but had visited this section the previous year. From a short diary kept by him, we have the following items:—

1810.—February 24, sap free; April 21, apple trees with leaves; May 1, Daniel Austin and Chapman Carr came; went to the mouth of the Wyalusing and one and a half miles below to Stalford's for wheat; meeting on Sabbath "out at Wilson's," and at Eld. Dimock's; September, helped Mr. Warner at a logging bee; November, many inquiring the way to Zion.

1811.—January, conference meeting at Mr. Samuel Scott's; singing-school by James Burch; February, went twice in one week to Lathrop's mills after boards for the school-house; June, married Lydia Avery; October, four of us pulled one hundred bushels of turnips.

1811.—July, a Mr. Nelson, missionary, preached in our school-house; 6th, militia election at Isaac Post's, and a noisy time it was; December 27, Chenango turnpike laid out through the settlement across my land.

1812.—January 30, sap run some. [Caleb Bush and Matthew Baldwin are mentioned. At a later date he enters: "Split 260 rails and left off before night."]

Jonathan Vaughn died in 1869, aged ninety.

Dr. Rose gave ten acres of land on which to erect a school-house. The first one built of logs, was on the old road (long since vacated), about half-way between Thomas Scott's and Scott Baldwin's, who were about two and a half miles apart. The next school-house was built near Scott Baldwin's. Beginning at the foot of "Brewster's Hill," the settlers on the west side of the road in 1810, were in the following order: Simeon Tyler, Scott Baldwin, David Dimock, Simeon Cook, Jonathan Vaughn, and Thomas Scott. (Henry Congdon was a little off from the road.)

On the east side there were: Nathan Brewster, Samuel Baldwin, Phineas Warner, Richard Daniels, Asa Baldwin, Samuel Scott, and Benjamin Fancher.

Jared Clark purchased, in 1812, the lot next above Asa Baldwin.

The north and south roads were well settled, while in the direction of New Milford, and of Heart Lake, all was yet a

dense forest, with the exception of the clearing of Nathaniel Curtis, who was alone for nearly four years.

In 1810, Hugh and Alexander McCollum, brothers, from Duaneburgh, N. Y., located in his vicinity; Alexander occupied "the Fields farm," now owned by L. Gardner.

In 1811, Cornelius Wood, also from near Albany, N. Y.; Solomon Simmons and family, from Connecticut, and Samuel and Abraham Chamberlin, from Greene County, New York; in 1812, Charles Trumbull, and in 1814, Walter Stewart from Duaneburg, New York, were added to the settlement. All were on the road leading from Brooklyn to New Milford and on roads just west of it, or on that leading from Heart Lake to Montrose, forming a triangle.

Very soon after, Lemuel Beebe and Ebenezer Williams from Connecticut, and Abraham E. Kennard and Joseph Guernsey from Windsor, New York, settled here, and Ezra Kingsley, who in 1832 went with the Mormons.

Of the heads of the foregoing dozen families—constituting "the Curtis neighborhood"—all are now deceased.

There are but two families of the name of Curtis remaining in the neighborhood, viz., Cornelius J. and the family of Joshua W., both sons of Nathaniel Curtis, Jr. The former owns and occupies the farm that his grandfather and father took up when it was a wilderness. The other sons of Nathaniel, Jr., were Anson, a physician of some eminence in Pittston, Luzerne County, who died in 1855, and Gaylord, now a banker at Susquehanna Depot. N. Curtis, Jr., died May, 1850.

Harvey Curtis built the first grist-mill on the outlet of Heart Lake, in 1823. The present one, owned by J. L. Griffing, was built by Grant and Hammond, in 1842.

Alexander McCollum left his farm in Bridgewater, over thirty years ago, and lived some years in New Milford. He died at Lanesboro', April 1, 1871, in his ninety-second year—the last of the east neighborhood pioneers. His sons were five: John, Hugh, George, Alexander, and Peter.

Hugh McCollum, 1st, and family, with the exception of one son, Daniel, moved to Wisconsin in 1844. Daniel McCollum, and John, son of Alexander, remain in Bridgewater; Hugh McCollum, 2d, is in Montrose.

Of the sons of Solomon Simmons, Julius, Charles, Solomon, Harly, and Garry, went to Illinois, and all are now dead but Charles.

Solomon, Jr., once cut a slender branch from an American willow at Towanda, used it as a cane while walking home, then stuck it into the ground near the house, and it now flourishes as a large tree that marks the site of his father's log cabin, near

the present toll-gate, on the farm of N. Passmore. (There was once a beaver dam near Passmore's present brick-kiln.)

Ira, son of Solomon Simmons, resided in Bridgewater and New Milford until his death.

The oldest child of Solomon Simmons, Sen., Mrs. Luther Catlin, the only one of the family who remained in the township, died October 25, 1872, in the eighty-fifth year of her age.

Luther Catlin came from Litchfield County, Connecticut, in 1812, and located near his cousin, Putnam Catlin, in what is now Brooklyn; but soon after came to the place now occupied by Robert Kent, and made the first clearing there. He removed after a time to the present location of John Reynolds, on the Meshoppen; but, about forty years ago, he came to the farm, previously occupied by a Mr. Matteson, where he now resides with his son, Martin L. Two of his sons located at the West.

Erastus Catlin, brother of Luther, made the first clearing on the Harrington farm. He removed to Dundaff, and afterwards to Pitcher, N. Y., where he died. The only representative of his family in the county is Mrs. Abel Turrell.

Ebenezer Williams went to Illinois in 1837; Alonzo L. Kennard, to Iowa; William, son of Samuel Chamberlin, and Lewis E., son of Abraham Chamberlin remained in the township. Israel Chamberlin, who recently murdered his wife and then committed suicide, was the son of Samuel.

Others of the pioneers here are represented by John Trumbull, Daniel Stewart, Levi Guernsey, John and Peleg Wood—all substantial farmers. The last two are sons of Cornelius Wood, who had four others, viz., Jonathan, Eseck (in Illinois), Ezra, and Ira, now removed.

Ezekiel G. Babcock came to the county (possibly later to this neighborhood), about 1812.

It is remarked that there is a striking contrast in the character and success in life of the families of the pioneers in this section; those who were taught to reverence the Sabbath seem to be prosperous, while those who disregarded it are the reverse.

The plank road, or its later substitute, has proved of immense service to East Bridgewater; the farmers send over it large quantities of butter every season to Montrose Depot, for the New York markets. At its junction with the road to Brooklyn, the East Bridgewater post-office was established in 1868.

In early times the mills of this and adjoining townships would often lack water, and farmers were obliged to go to Windsor, twenty-six miles, with their grain.

Timothy Brown, from Connecticut, and Samuel Parmeter, from the Mohawk, were early settlers on the farms now owned by Elijah Brown and Andrus Aldrich. Joseph and William

Darrow were early on the farms now owned by Messrs. Shufelts and J. F. Gardiner.

Jonah Brewster, brother of Nathan, located in 1812, near the present farm of Joseph Watrous. His house is still standing, being the first one on the road leading to Brooklyn. He was much interested in politics, and once represented this section in the State Legislature. He had five wives (one of whom was a sister of Hon. William Jessup) and ten children. He left Susquehanna County about 1830, and went to Tioga County, where he engaged in the mercantile business. Was appointed to the judgeship to fill a vacancy, and removed to Wellsboro', where he died about 1858, aged seventy-eight.

James W. Hill, afterwards justice of the peace, settled in Bridgewater, in 1812, and cleared a farm, where he resided until his death in 1853, at the age of sixty-three. He and Reuben Reynolds occupied a log-house together for a time.

Joseph Butterfield, who settled in Forest Lake in 1801, removed in 1812, to the Samuel Main farm in Bridgewater, where he died in 1848, aged seventy; Mrs. B. died about ten years later. Their sons, Oliver, Alanson, and Joseph are all dead.

The vicinity of Williams' Pond echoed to the ring of the woodman's ax about the same time with the east neighborhood.

Joseph Williams and Jarah Stephens (his father-in-law) came together from Pierstown, Otsego County, New York, and located their lands in 1809; but returned to their families for the winter. In the spring of 1810, they came again, and made a clearing, and, with the help of men from Great Bend, rolled up a log-house. Mr. Stephens was left to finish it, while Mr. Williams went for his family, who returned with him, May, 1810, accompanied also by Philander, son of Jarah Stephens. Mrs. Williams and her children, Orin and Frederick (the latter born the preceding January), came to the house when it was but half shingled and floored, and when a blanket served for the door, and while in this unprotected condition, heard in the night the tread of a wild animal on the roof, which, by its tracks, was afterwards ascertained to have been a panther. Their daughter, Mrs. A. L. Post, was born here, the framed house (still standing) not being erected until 1823. Mrs. Eleanor Williams died in 1827.

Jarah and Philander Stephens brought their families in 1811. The former was a captain in the Revolutionary army; he died here December, 1821; the latter removed to Dimock.

Daniel Foster, who came in 1812 from Vermont, and settled on the road to New Milford, near Williams' Pond, formed the fourth of that name then in the township, including Montrose, between whom there existed no relation. He was on the top

of the hill; James Stephens cleared the farm beyond, lately occupied by Otis Bullard.

William Stephens occupied what has since been known as Timothy Warner's place; Nathan Shipman, William Salmon, John, James, and Luther Snow, and Stephen Webb, were settlers on the Snake Creek about 1812. Luther Peck, Gideon Southworth, from Connecticut, Andrew Young, and perhaps others, were in the vicinity about 1814.

Bela Jones came from Colchester, New London County, Connecticut, May, 1810, and lived for a time with Isaac Post in the first building he put up. On June 7th, 1811, he cut the first tree on his farm, one mile from Montrose. In 1813, he cut floor boards and small timber for the court-house. In 1815 he was town clerk. In the winter of 1818-19 he assisted William Jessup in teaching the first school in the old academy; both being in the lower rooms. In 1820, he took the census for Susquehanna County. In 1833-1835 he honorably represented the county in the State Legislature. Few names occur more frequently than his as chairman of political meetings of the old democratic school. He resided nearly forty years on the northern shore of the lake which is still known as Jones' Lake.

Here, in 1814, he erected a carding-machine. A description of the effort required to accomplish this, was recently given by J. Backus in the 'Montrose Republican.'

"Bela Jones, Esq., and myself proposed to set up a carding-machine at the outlet of Jones' Lake. Taking my knapsack of provisions, I started on foot for Otsego County, New York, distant about one hundred miles, where machines were being manufactured; purchased a single machine, and set about finding means of transportation.

"An acquaintance told me he had a skiff in the river somewhere below, and if I could find it I might take it for that purpose. I hired a teamster to carry my machine to a place designated, in the neighborhood of what was then known as Collier's tavern, some miles above Wattle's ferry, where I found the skiff, bottom upwards, with its seams so opened by the sun as to cause it to be very leaky. However, I procured some tow and tar, and proceeded to calk and fit my craft for the voyage. I succeeded, and, loading, I set sail. Landing at night, and putting up with a settler along the bank, I reached Great Bend in safety, deposited my freight in DuBois's shed, and came home. At that time it was much more difficult to get teaming done than now; but Capt. Abinoam Hinds, a very kind, obliging man, went with me on Saturday, to bring the machine, and such was the condition of the roads that we failed to reach our destination till long after dark; so we detached the horses, came into town, put them in Austin Howell's shed, and the captain led the way into the chamber of the house, and we retired for the night. Starting early, before any one was stirring, we unloaded, and returned home without disturbing the community.

"I will describe the locality of our machinery: Across the stream, a short distance below the outlet, we felled a couple of trees for the foundation of the building; erected a small frame, put the machine in operation, and finding business accumulating, we concluded to manufacture a single machine ourselves; but where was the foundry to do our casting? That must be

started; so a Mr. Perkins, a very ingenious mechanic, being with us, established a water blast; but where was the metal? I canvassed far and near for broken iron ware, and we succeeded in our endeavors.

"Let any one bear in mind the means and mode of travel, and of doing business, and then step into Sayre's foundry, in Montrose, Mott's cloth factory, in Bridgewater, or Wright's cloth factory, in Forest Lake, and behold the contrast."

With only such facilities, it can hardly be supposed that this, or the saw-mill and grist-mill he erected here about the same time, were the best of their kind; but they served the community many years.

Bela Jones removed a few years since to Liberty, and kept the "Valley House"—noted for its generous cheer. He married a sister of Nathan Brewster; of their children, three daughters reside in the county, but their only son died young. Mr. Jones died March 9, 1872, in the eighty-second year of his age.

Amos Nichols came to Bridgewater in 1810. The following statement appears in Rev. A. L. Post's 'Historical Discourse.'

"While there is a history of the church, the names of Deacon Amos Nichols and Amindwell, his wife, must have a prominent place. Taking into account their ability and means we shall have to seek long to find those who have accomplished an equal amount of good. They were received into the church on letters from the Baptist church in Salisbury, N. Y., March 18, 1810. In November following, he was ordained the first deacon of the Bridgewater Baptist church."

He died in New Milford July, 1845, at the house of his son-in-law, Secku Meylert, in the seventy-second year of his age. Mrs. Nichols had died in Bridgewater the year previous.

Dr. James Cook, the first regularly educated physician in the town, located about this time across the Wyalusing Creek, opposite Stephen Wilson. He practiced here several years, and then removed to Spencer, N. Y.

Josiah Mills came to Bridgewater in 1811, and settled near C. Hinds' last location. He was born in Roxbury, Massachusetts, October 7, 1763. In his fourteenth year, then a homeless orphan, he enlisted in the Revolutionary army as a drummer. After a year's service, he exchanged his drum for a musket, which he carried to the close of the war, receiving an honorable discharge. He was at the battle of White Plains; was with Gates at Stillwater and Saratoga, assisting at the capture of Burgoyne; was also with Washington at Trenton and Princeton, and endured the terrible sufferings of the march through the Jerseys, and the fearful winter at Valley Forge. He was also permitted to share in the glorious triumph of the federal armies at Yorktown. In after years he received a pension.

Soon after the war he emigrated, with his young wife, to the

wilds of Maine, and was one of the first settlers of the town of Joy, Oxford County, where he remained until his removal to Susquehanna County.

He had received, in 1804, a commission as captain, from Governor Caleb Strong, of Massachusetts—Maine then being a province of that State.

In 1812, he married, for his second wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Elder Samuel Sturdevant, of Braintrim.

In 1817, Captain Mills settled on a farm two and a half miles west of Montrose, on which he lived until his death, March 23, 1833, in his seventieth year. His widow died in Montrose, September, 1841.

One child, Bartlet Hinds Mills, formerly an editor and merchant in Montrose, has been a resident of Upper Alton, Illinois, since 1854.

In a recent letter, he says: "Often have I heard my father speak of the three African regiments in the Revolutionary war, officered by white men, and of the gallant and effective service they rendered; and, in connection with this, he would denounce the system of American slavery as something abhorrent, utterly at variance with the principles he had suffered to maintain."

Samuel Gregory, who had been with his father in what is now Herrick at an early day, came from Mt. Pleasant late in 1811, and settled half a mile south of Montrose. His family then consisted of his wife, one son, and two daughters; another son and four daughters were born here.

The two sons, Rufus B., a graduate of Union College, and a young lawyer of great promise, and Asa, a graduate of West Point Military Academy, and a lieutenant of the regular army, died in Florida. Rufus was the hero boy of thirteen years, of whom mention was made, in our county paper, as having, while on a squirrel hunt, encountered and killed a large bear.

Mr. Gregory died June, 1850, aged sixty-five. He had twice been sheriff of the county, and is spoken of as a bold and efficient officer.

A story is told of his serving a writ of ejectment, when he knew the inmates of the house were prepared to eject *him* with hot water. He managed to elude being seen, and entered the loft of the house through a window, and raised a board of the chamber floor. The hot water did not then prevent his serving the writ.

Mrs. G. had marked characteristics. Without the least ostentation or affectation, she possessed a quaintness and good humor which was peculiarly attractive. She was a sufferer from ill health many years, and died, in 1869, when within three days of her eighty-sixth birth-day.

Dr. Asa Park, a native of Preston, Connecticut, who had

located in Mt. Pleasant, in 1806, and had married, in 1808, Lorrana, sister of Samuel Gregory, came with the latter to the vicinity of Montrose. The two families, at first, occupied the house vacated by Samuel Cogswell, who had sold his farm to Dr. Park.

Dr. P.'s practice began here in January, 1812, and became extensive and lucrative, but was relinquished to his son, Ezra S., after about thirty years. Mrs. P. died in October, 1845, and Dr. Park in January, 1854, aged seventy-one. They were buried on their farm, as were also Mr. and Mrs. Gregory, and other relatives of the family.

Dr. Ezra S. Park practiced here about twenty-five years, and removed to the West in 1858. He was an infant when his parents left Mt. P. They had lost two children. Two sons, Hiram and Asa, and four daughters were born here. Hiram moved West in 1836, and died in 1838. The daughters all married here; two are dead, one resides in Montrose, and one upon the old homestead. Asa was a volunteer in a New York regiment, and was killed at the first battle of Bull Run.

Isaac Bullard, a Revolutionary soldier, settled, in 1812, where James Bunnell lives (now Dimock), but after a time removed to the late location of his son, Hezekiah, in the south neighborhood. He died in 1842, aged ninety-seven. Of his sons, Elijah, the eldest, is now living in Montrose, over eighty years of age; Hezekiah and Otis have died recently, aged respectively seventy-nine and seventy-seven.

Of later settlers only a few notices can be given.

Robert Eldridge, a native of Connecticut, came from Lewis County, N. Y., in 1814, and located on the farm first taken up by Elias West, and occupied, for a time, by Samuel Kellum, brother-in-law of Mr. E. James Eldridge, father of Robert, died here in 1841, in his eighty-eighth year. After living here about thirty years, Robert removed to Brooklyn, where he died in 1861, aged eighty. Of his sons, James has since occupied the old homestead, but now resides in Owego, N. Y.; Orlando is in Brooklyn. Of his five children, Mrs. C. Cushman is the only one in the county.

Jeremiah Etheridge came from New London, Conn., in the spring of 1815, and was the first cabinet-maker in the south neighborhood. He returned to Connecticut, in the fall, to be married, and in October he and his bride began housekeeping in the house vacated by Edward Fuller, near the south line of the township. A few months later, he built on the corner below Deacon Deans'.

Mr. Etheridge removed to Montrose in 1818, and occupied, at first, the small, low building in the rear of the present residence of Mrs. E. There was not then a neighbor on Turnpike Street,

above where M. S. Wilson now lives. Mr. E. died in 1866, aged seventy-five. His only son, Isaac L., died when a young man, about twenty-five years previous.

Samuel Warner came, about 1815, to Conrad Hinds' first location in the north neighborhood. He was an earnest temperance and anti-slavery advocate. He died in September, 1848.

Ebenezer Sprout, from Hampshire Co., Mass., came with his wife, in 1816, to the farm they occupied near Montrose, until 1862, when they removed to Lycoming County. They reared a large family. He died January, 1871, in his eighty-fourth year.

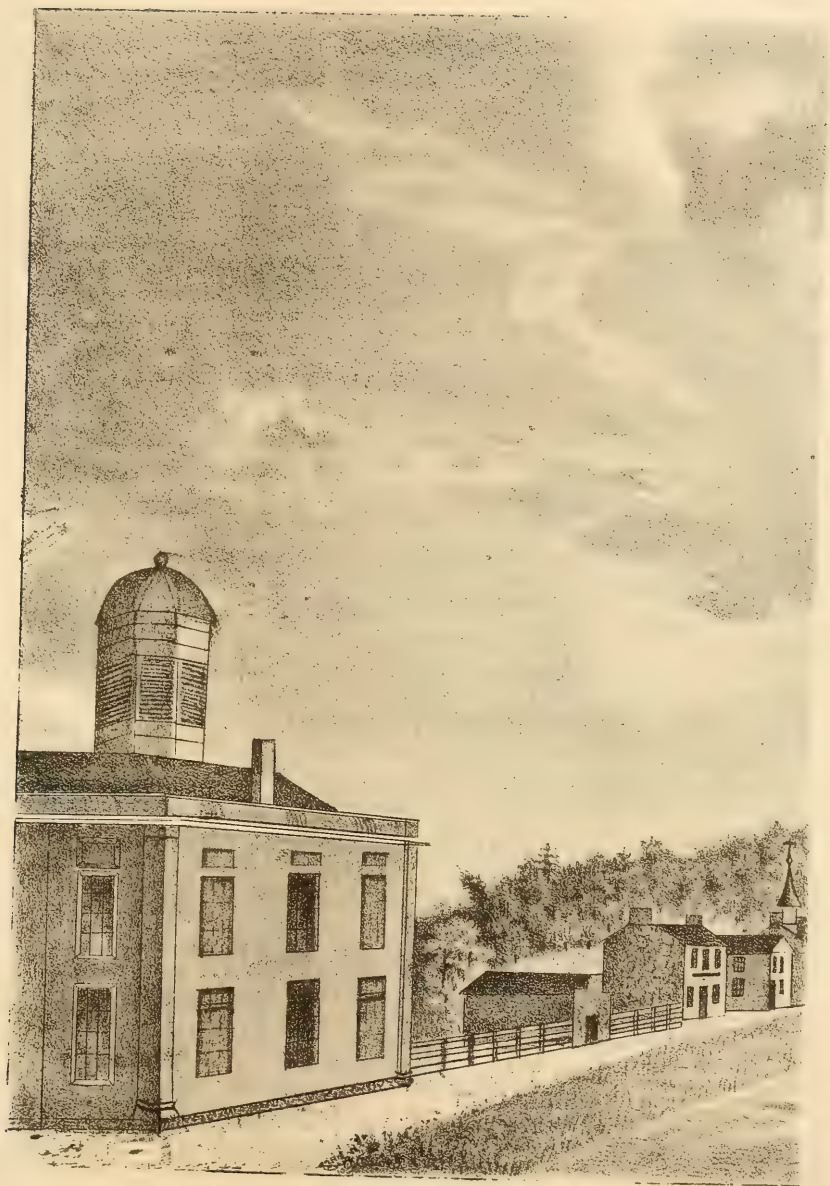
Amos Burrows came to the east neighborhood in 1817.

David Bushnell, a native of Connecticut, came to Bridgewater, from Greene County, N. Y., as early as 1816, and purchased the farm now occupied by Matthew Baldwin. He brought his family in the spring of 1819. Five years later, he was obliged, while building a barn, to pay a bushel of oats for every pound of nails he used. In 1829, he came to the farm on the east line of Montrose, where he lived ten years. While here, he joined the Presbyterian church by profession of faith. Upon leaving Montrose, he spent two years in Bradford County before locating in Auburn, where he died April 5, 1872, aged eighty-six.

Joseph W. Parker was born in Saybrook, Conn., April 20, 1797. He removed to Bridgewater in 1816; was baptized by Elder D. Dimock, in 1818, when twenty-one years of age; was licensed June 10, 1826; and was ordained May 13, 1829. A considerable portion of his life was spent as a missionary under the patronage of the New York Baptist State Convention, principally in the counties of Susquehanna, Wyoming, Luzerne, and Bradford, where he assisted in organizing several churches, and baptized 602 professed believers, of whom seven entered the ministry. He was a faithful, persevering, good man, whose ministry covered almost forty years. He died near Montrose, April 9, 1866. Mrs. Parker died in Binghamton, December, 1870, in her seventy-third year.

About 1818, Cyrus Cheevers, a native of Massachusetts, came from Harford to the place afterwards known as Mr. Lillie's, on the Wilkes-Barre turnpike, where the gate was last kept, and where he built the house still standing. Mrs. C. died in Bridgewater, July, 1870, in the ninety-first year of her age. She united with the Baptist church of Attleborough, Mass., in 1802.

Orin Clemons and Henry Patrick, later settlers, were located in the vicinity of Montrose over forty years. They and their wives have since deceased.



M. A. BLACKMAN

1840



MONTROSE GREEN.

M. A. BLACKMAN
1840

Twenty years after Stephen Wilson made his clearing, the township was quite well settled. His farm was occupied, in 1819, by Elizur and Demmon Price; when they left, it passed into the hands of Messrs. Park, Gregory, and D. Post.

The customs of the people at this time were, in some respects singular. Apple-bees were common, with mince-pies, doughnuts, and sled riding as accompaniments. A couple would go to a justice of the peace to be married, on horseback, the lady riding on a pillion behind her lover.

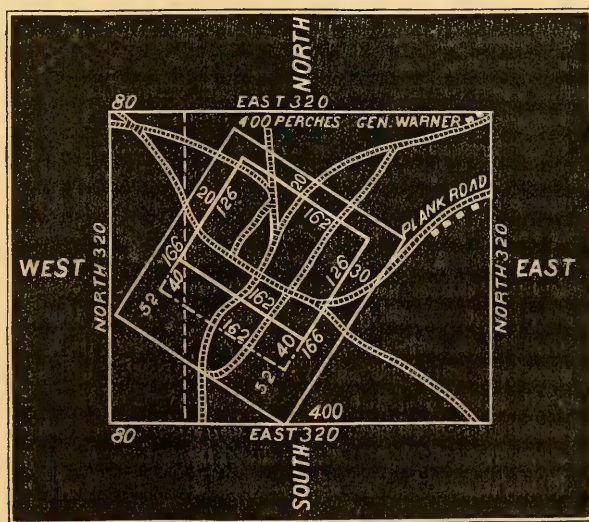
MONTROSE.

Capt. B. Hinds and Dr. R. H. Rose were friends. They agreed to name, each for the other, their places of residence. The former named Silver Lake, and the latter Montrose, after a town in Scotland.

The site of the court-house was fixed by Commissioners Butler, Sutton, and Dorrance, of Wyoming Valley, in 1811.

From this period, the population and interest of the township centered in Montrose. A village plot was surveyed in 1812; its area was but 112 by 139 perches. Singularly enough, it did not include the first location of Bartlet Hinds, the south line being the road just above it, now leading to the cemetery.

Fig. 21.



SUCCESSIVE BOROUGH LIMITS OF MONTROSE.

In the diagram, the original borough, including 126 by 162 perches, is in *heavy lines*. The north line passed across the site

of D. R. Lathrop's present residence; the east line did not include the site of the present residence of E. C. Fordham, nor the west line that of E. Bacon.

The first extension added forty perches to the southwest side. It included the house of D. Post, Esq., but not the site of Mrs. H. Drinker's. The second extension (in 1853), added twenty perches on the northwest and northeast, thirty perches on the southeast, and fifty-two on the southwest. It took in the houses of Walter Foster and E. Bullard, and the row of houses on Turnpike Street, from Mrs. J. C. Biddle to the Methodist church, but did not include the farm-house of Wm. Jessup, or the late residence of J. T. Langdon; the northeast line passed through the residence of S. Bard. The borough was then three-fourths of a mile in length by a little less in width.

In 1864, it was extended by town council to *one mile square*, due east and west, by north and south, the centre being a little south of Sayre Bros.' foundry. It then included the houses in the vicinity of Gen. Warner, but it was found not to extend far enough west to include all who wished to come in, and the next year the extension was confirmed by the legislature, with eighty perches more added on the west. The center of the borough is now about on the east line of "the Green," between M. C. Tyler's corner and the residence of C. M. Gere. The borough includes the source of the Wyalusing, near the plank road, and extends east nearly to "the Dunn house," north, nearly to the residence of O. S. Beebe; and west, so as to include the farm buildings of J. S. Tarbell.

When the act of legislature was passed in 1810, setting off Susquehanna from Luzerne, the tavern of Isaac Post, the small house of David Post under Cemetery Hill, and the log-house of B. Hinds, were the only residences in what is now Montrose. During that year, Jabez Frink, Sen., had a log-house opposite the present Baptist church, and carried on blacksmithing for Isaac Post in a shop just west of Wm. Foster's present residence. A horse-shed was on the corner where the post-office has recently been placed upon the foundation of the first brick building erected in the town. A new barn, roofed but not completed, stood on the site of Wm. H. Cooper's banking-house, and years later was in its rear. This was all of Montrose when it was chosen as the county-seat. Mr. Frink afterwards owned the farm now Mrs. A. Butterfield's. His sons Jabez and George were later blacksmiths here. Rufus, brother of Jabez Frink, Sen., and father of Avery Frink, now of Montrose, came early, and afterwards occupied the site of the present residence of Wm. J. Mulford, where he died.

About 1811, Isaac Post erected a store on the site of the building now occupied by J. R. Dewitt & Co. It was a low

building, painted red—the first painted house in the township. Both sides of the road were then clear from the corners occupied by Mr. Post down to B. Hinds' house.

Isaac P. Foster, the first tanner and currier in the place, came from South Hampton, Long Island, in 1811, and erected first the house afterwards occupied by B. T. Case, Esq., but soon after the old Keeler Hotel, and prepared his tanyard just back of it. The basement or cellar of this was the first place of confinement for breakers of the public peace; in it, also, Nehemiah Scott taught school when Rev. A. L. Post and playmates were learning their A B C's. Mr. Foster afterwards had a store in this building. J. W. Raynsford was in business with him, and upon closing up resigned to Mr. Foster the house he had built on the west line of the Green. Here Mr. F. lived until 1829, when he removed to Honesdale, where he still resides.

Austin Howell came from the same place, early in 1812, and became associated in business with I. P. Foster. In November, 1813, he raised his tavern sign, at the house he erected just below Mr. Foster, and which continued to be a public house after he built a private residence, for about forty years, kept by successive occupants, among whom were Edward Fuller and Stephen Hinds. The house was burned October, 1854. Its site is occupied by a low, long building used as a store-room by Smith Brothers.

Mr. H. was elected and filled the office of sheriff for the second official term after the organization of the county. He was ever respected as a kind-hearted, honest, and upright man. He had married previous to coming here a sister of the late Hon. William Jessup.

He removed to Rush about 1815, and afterwards to Jessup, where he died, in 1866, at the age of seventy-eight years. His last days were spent at the house of ex-Sheriff Howell, his son by a second marriage.

William Foster, our present townsman, came in the spring of 1812, from the same place as Messrs. Foster and Howell, and became their apprentice in the tanning business for six years. Two of his tanneries have been destroyed by fire, on the site of the present establishment of his son, Charles S.

Francis Fordham, also from Long Island, in 1812, was the first hatter here. February 9th, 1813, he brought his bride from the same place, and their housekeeping was commenced over the hat-shop, which stood on the street in the north corner of H. F. Turrell's garden. He was afterwards engaged in various mercantile enterprises here, and had one of the first distilleries. Abraham Fordham, brother of the former, was the first cooper here. Both remained here to the close of life, both

were old men when they left us, and descendants of their families are still among our business men.

In the fall of 1812, Dr. Charles Fraser came from Great Bend to Montrose, having been elected to the offices of prothonotary, register, and recorder, etc. He first occupied a log-house a little north of the present Baptist parsonage, while he was building the house which his daughters now occupy. This was raised in May, 1813. He was afterwards elected senator for five counties, including Susquehanna, and, upon the close of his term of service, resumed the practice of medicine, and endeared himself to many. He died February 4th, 1834, aged 54 years. Mrs. Fraser survived him thirty-six years, and died at the age of 85. They had four children; the sons became lawyers, and the daughters teachers. Philip, the eldest son, is judge of the United States District Court of Florida, of which State he has been a resident for the last thirty years, remaining there throughout the late war, and maintaining his position as a Unionist.

Rufus Bowman came in 1813, from Windsor, N. Y., and with his family occupied the log house vacated by Dr. Fraser, until he built a frame house on the spot now occupied by the store of Wm. J. Mulford. In its best days it served many families in succession, and now forms the front part of the residence of E. C. Fordham. He built also a small house (in which he died) on the corner now occupied by the residence of R. B. Little, Esq. He was a baker by trade, but here, at that time, every housekeeper made her own bread, and he was employed in the mason work on the first court-house, and on other buildings.

After his death, in 1827, the family moved to the farm now occupied by M. L. Catlin. The children married and settled in different parts of the county; two daughters were teachers here many years. Mrs. Bowman died in Jessup in 1856.

In June, 1813, the first court-house was raised, in a new clearing, in which the blackened stumps were still standing; and even five years later they ornamented the west side of the public avenue.

The first court had been held in the ball-room of I. Post's tavern. Mr. Post began to raise his house and store on the southwest corner of Main and Turnpike Streets, August 13th, following. As soon as he occupied it, Edward Fuller kept his public house for a year, before going into that of Austin Howell.

George Claggett and Stephen Hinds came in August, 1813. Of the sons of the latter, L. B. Hinds of Susquehanna Depot, is the only one in the county. Loami is in Factoryville, Pa. David Post raised his large house in 1814.

The first lawyers who located here were A. H. Read and B. T. Case, Esqs.—the former in 1814 and the latter in 1816.

Nathan Raynor, merchant, came in 1815. He lived for a time with F. Fordham before commencing the house lately owned by Alfred Baldwin.

Garner Isbell, a cabinet-maker, was here about this time.

Dr. Mason Denison had been occupying a part of D. Post's house, some months, before raising in 1816 the rear of his own house, now the residence of J. R. Dewitt.

Benjamin Sayre and S. S. Mulford, both natives of Long Island, established themselves as merchants here, in the fall of 1816. Mr. S. came with his young wife from Greene Co., N. Y.; Mr. M. was then single. They resided in the rear and chambers of the store of Sayre & Mulford, which stood on the site of the present residence of Mrs. S. S. Mulford. The building was bought, a few years later, by Aaron Green, a tanner and shoemaker (and a Long Islander), and removed down the hill where it now forms a part of the house of C. M. Crandall.

In 1816, a newspaper was established here, from one of the first numbers of which the following item is taken, in reference to the growth of Montrose:—

“In the year 1812 the town of Montrose contained but two families. It now contains a court-house, prison, printing-office, leather factory, 2 shoe-factories, hat-factory, cabinet-factory, chair-factory, druggist's, tailor's and two smithshops; 3 physicians, 7 carpenters, 3 public inns, 5 stores, 28 dwelling-houses (several more now building), and 186 inhabitants.”

Of the many houses being built in 1816 and 1817 were the following:—

That of Eli Gregory, now Rev. B. Baldwin's; Daniel Gregory's, a small house that stood on M. C. Tyler's corner; Mrs. Clarissa Avery's, now belonging to her son Charles Avery, Esq.; A. H. Read's next below, now C. M. Gere's; Mr. Mauger's, now occupied by H. H. Frazier, Esq.; Mr. Plum's, now A. N. Bullard's, and the Silver Lake Bank, now the residence of F. B. Chandler. This could just be seen through the thinned woods, from Mr. Sayre's house; Mr. Mauger's, though nearer, was wholly concealed by the dense woods in that direction.

Between the court-house and Post's tavern (then kept by C. Carr) there was only his barn, fronting on the west side of the avenue. On the east side D. Curtis had built a tavern, and next below was the store of Sayre & Mulford, then R. Bowman's house, and no other above the corner, where a low red house then stood, the rear of which was occupied by Justin Clark, the editor of 'The Centinel.' The printing-house was opposite Howell's tavern. On Turnpike Street, Geo. Claggett, a tailor, had built the rear of M. S. Wilson's house, Alanson

Coy, blacksmith, and Peter Brulte, hatter, were in the houses opposite, which are still standing.

On Main Street there was no house on the east side above I. P. Foster's. Below him was the tavern Mr. Howell had left to occupy his new building, which was where Wm. W. Smith has since built, and which was the last house on that side. Opposite were D. Post's new and old houses, and north of them, Mr. Benedict's (first Orimel Deans'—its site is now covered by Miss E. Rose's house); B. T. Case's; Wm. Turrell in F. Fordham's first building; Herrick & Fordham's store, and Mr. F.'s residence under the same roof; and on the corner Isaac Post's house and store. Nathan Raynor's house was near the site of the fork factory. The small house first built by Mr. Mauger had been moved, and now forms a part of Wm. L. Cox's house. Mr. Birchard, a carpenter engaged in building the bank, then lived in it. This was Montrose in 1817.

Wm. Turrell, wife and two children, had come from Conn. in 1816, and lived a short time in the Benedict house, then removed to Auburn for a year. While there he brought a load of apples to Montrose—the *first* ever brought here from trees grown in the county. He then came and settled here permanently. He was the first saddler here. His eldest son, Wm. J., represented this district in the State Senate from 1862-'65, and was elected speaker.

In the year 1818, Montrose could boast of one weekly mail, brought on horseback from Great Bend by the post-boy, Leonard Searle. As he neared the village every Thursday, he announced his coming by a shrill blast from a tin horn, which usually hung from his saddle in readiness for this occasion. At this welcome sound there was an immediate rush for the post-office, then kept by Isaac Post in his tavern (to which he returned after it was vacated by C. Carr).

S. S. Mulford boarded at Mr. Sayre's, and often brought from the office letters for the family.

One day when he came in, he exclaimed, "Major Post says you ought to be satisfied this time, as you have *the entire mail*, seven letters and three papers," the aggregate of a whole week! The New England settlers were not without their correspondents, even at 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ cents per letter, and this was an exceptional case; but it is amusing when taken in connection with the statement of our present postmaster, that an average of two hundred and fifty-eight letters are now received in a day.

In 1819, Charles Catlin built the house on the corner near the court-house, and now the residence of H. J. Webb. Mr. C. was admitted to the bar of the county several years earlier, but had not previously resided here.

The same year, Benjamin Sayre erected a dwelling-house on

the lot next below, where for several years he kept the "Washington Hotel." Afterwards it was his private residence until it was destroyed by fire in the spring of 1851. The generous hospitality bestowed here many have reason to remember. For the members of the Presbyterian church, of which he was a ruling elder, it was a place of frequent meeting for prayer or consultation; and much of that church's prosperity is due to his zeal and efforts.

He was a native of Southampton, L. I., but came here from Cairo, N. Y., where he married Priscilla, daughter of Dea. Benj. Chapman. They had five daughters (of whom two died young) and three sons; the latter are the proprietors of the Susquehanna County Agricultural Works, Foundry, Steam Mill, &c., which contribute largely to the material interests of the place.

Mr. Sayre died in August, 1858, in his 67th year.

Silvanus Sandford Mulford was born August 20th, 1784, at Easthampton, L. I. The names of his ancestors are given among the founders of that Puritan community in 1643. He came to Montrose in 1816, and two years later was married to Fanny, daughter of Zebulon Jessup, of Southampton, L. I. He was one of the few merchants in the county whose business continued without interruption nearly half a century. "He avoided public office, but he did not avoid public duties. In the path of unobtrusive life he sought only the fulfilment of the relations, citizen, father, and friend, which for him had a higher distinction than civil or social honor, and his life was marked by that integrity and equity which for him had the highest reverence."

He had six sons and one daughter. Three sons, either separately or jointly, continued the business established by their father, until the recent death of Sylvester H. Three sons were educated at Yale College. Samuel B., a graduate of 1849, became a lawyer of high promise. He went to California in 1849, and died at Marysville, Cal., in 1863. S. S. Mulford, Jr., a graduate of 1850, served as a surgeon of the Union army through the Rebellion, and now practices his profession in the city of New York. Elisha is a graduate of 1855. [See Authors.]

S. S. Mulford died June 6th, 1864. As a voluntary expression of regard, all the stores and public offices in Montrose were closed at the time of his funeral.

The following miscellaneous items, in which style is sacrificed to brevity, are culled from the newspapers of their respective dates:—

1816.—Herrick & Fordham, merchants, in new store, near the court-house. (This was soon moved down to the lot now occupied by E. C. & G. F. Fordham's shops.) Montrose Academy, established by act of the Legislature; W. Fraser, orator, 4th July celebration; he was elected Senator the following fall. Benj. T. Case, lawyer, located in the village—his sign at first mistaken for Beer & Cake. [He removed it in consequence, and no other took its place.]

1817.—May 7th, Miss Stephens' school on the avenue where store of W. J. Mulford is now. A daughter of Samuel Scott, lost two days in the woods. In June, a freshet swept away the saw-mill dams of Major Post, Conner & Bliss, and John Street. In August, another freshet occurred, in which Mr. Harris, owner of a mill about one and a half miles below town, was drowned. Foster & Raynsford's dry goods and leather store—now Exchange Hotel. R. B. Locke, tailor; Anson Dart, carriage manufacturer, "at sign of gilded

coach, in Mechanics' Hall" (lot now occupied by W. L. Cox's shop). Daily allowance for subsistence of criminals in gaol was twenty cents.

1818.—January, on petition of B. Sayre and others, Maple Street was extended twelve rods to reach Milford and Owego turnpike, between the banking house and Rufus Bowman's (then near G. F. Fordham's present residence). February, the typhus fever begins its ravages. Anson Dart advertises paints; Mr. Curtis, dancing in Assembly Room; Asa Hartshorn, watches and jewelry; Wm. Turrell, as saddle and harness-maker; 'Montrose Gazette,' opposite Fuller's tavern; Mary T. Chapman, select school, drawing and painting in addition to studies; Abraham Fordham, cooper; Sayre & Mulford dissolved; Raynor & Mulford form a partnership; Samuel Gregory, sheriff; P. Brulte, fencing-school.

1819.—N. H. Lyons, bookbinder, opposite Montrose Hotel (on present site of J. R. Dewitt), was joined in the spring by his brother, Jerre Lyons; theirs was the first bookstore. In the fall they built a store where H. J. Webb now has one. Robert McCollum, tailor, in same building. J. Etheridge, cabinet-maker, advertises for an apprentice, "who can come well recommended, clear of the itch." Justin Clark, gaoler; "the gaol needs a lock;" three prisoners escaped in March, and one in April. Charles Catlin & Co., surveyors and land agents. B. Sayre, licensed. July 5th, a public dinner at E. Fuller's, the 4th occurring on Sunday. Among the toasts was the following by Walker Woodhouse: "*The United States*—what God has joined together, let no man put asunder." July 10th, Samuel Warner and Robert Day, committee upon public burying-grounds. Typhus fever continues to prevail; thirty-three adults died of the disease. October 24th, "As yet no mail stage has ever passed through this place; we want the music of stage horns to enliven our village." Late in the fall a highway robbery occurred, and one hundred dollars was offered for the apprehension of the robber, who was secured by N. H. Lyons. David Fields, tailor. S. S. Mulford's store in the double house he built, now the residence of Jerre Lyons; he resided here ten years. Samuel Barnard occupied house first built by S. S. Mulford (now Mrs. A. Jessup's), and engaged as teacher in the academy.

1820.—January, Agricultural Society proposed by Dr. Rose. May, Medical Society proposed by Dr. Bingham; Carbine & Woodhouse, merchants, in store first occupied by B. Sayre; first proposed division of Susquehanna County. December, Howard and Jerre Lyons, "Bibles and whisky." Asa Hartshorn, watchmaker. Peter Jameson supplies the village with fresh meat, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at Sayre's tavern.

1821.—Much attention given to the making of maple sugar; also a great interest felt in the Agricultural Society, and in the raising of stock. Board of scholars from one dollar to one dollar and fifty cents per week, in families. November 10th, first agricultural show.

1822.—Eyre & Hodgdon, merchants, in store previously occupied by I. & D. Post. [Samuel Hodgdon soon after built the house now owned by Saxon Wilson, and used it as a store and residence.] Both the turnpike roads from New York and Philadelphia finished through the county. July 4th, oration by A. H. Read; committee and officers dine at I. Post's tavern; committee of arrangements "return acknowledgments to Capt. Sayre and his company, for their very polite behavior, likewise to Lieut. Coy, Sergt. Dimock, and Henry Clark of the Artillery." October 9th, cattle show. Death of Bartlet Hinds, who was the first man to cut a tree where Montrose now stands. Henry Catlin keeps the tavern of B. Sayre (Washington Hotel), for a short time. Green & Bowman, boot and shoe manufacturers, north side of Public Square.

1823.—Statement of expenditures of Susquehanna Academy, from May 1, 1820, to January 27, 1823, shows the school teachers had received not quite five hundred dollars. March 23d, great snowstorm; B. T. Case, deputy sur-

veyor, in place of Jas. Catlin, resigned; Wm. Dennis, gunsmith; Thos. J. Brooks, hatter; Elias Colborn (afterwards Colborn & Gregory), tin and sheet-iron manufactory; Fordham & Woodhouse, merchants. July 4th, Masonic celebration, North Star and Rising Sun Lodges—dinner at B. Sayre's Washington Hotel. July 9th, Widow Cornwell's log house burned. Stephen Hinds "makes boots in the neatest and best manner for two dollars." November, twenty-five sheep killed by wolves within two miles of Montrose.

1824.—January 1. "This morning the new line of stages commenced running to New York. Business quite lively to-day. Took ten dollars cash, nearly thirty bushels of oats, and six bushels of rye and corn, and charged \$3.42." (From private diary of Jerre Lyons, given to show what could be done in 1824.) The following extract is also from Mr. L.'s diary: "Huzza! huzza! for the new stage (*via* Milford and Owego turnpike); this evening about 7 o'clock, the new stage direct from New York. O what a shouting! It was saluted by the drum and fife, and by the cheers of the populace. A number of buildings were brilliantly illuminated. The stage was forty-one hours coming from the city, but might have got in in less than forty hours, but stayed at Dundaff unnecessarily; six persons aboard." [This was the establishment of a tri-weekly mail from New York to Ithaca, which place it reached on the third day—two and a half days to Owego. The Philadelphia and Baltimore mail intersected this route at Montrose twice a week.] James Catlin contracts for carrying the mail to Silver Lake, Lawsville, Great Bend, Harmony, and Deposit. Ashery of B. Sayre in what is now "Bethel Valley." Tannery of Stephens & Foster. Brooks & Bailey, hatters, where is now the law office of F. A. Case, Esq. The borough incorporated March 29; B. T. Case, first Burgess. May 7th, proposals solicited for putting up the frame of a Presbyterian meeting-house, signed by I. P. Foster. May 21st, reward offered for the murderer of Oliver Harper; Martin Curtis succeeds N. Raynor; A. H. Read, fire insurance agent; B. R. Lyons, merchant; Wm. Harrington, plasterer; B. Sayre introduces "Vertical Spinner." September 10th, Treadwell's trial; Christopher Eldridge, merchant, on site of Mrs. Mulford's present residence; B. Sayre moves his store into a wing of his house, across the street; Miss Cochran and sister, milliners; S. Hodgdon moves to his store and house opposite Presbyterian church; James Catlin, opposite the Silver Lake bank, and first house east of S. Hodgdon's drug store and residence; the same is now a wing of the house of Rev. H. A. Riley; Colonel John Buckingham in Montrose Hotel.

1825.—Daily stage to New York. January 13th, execution of Treadwell; newspaper controversy on capital punishment. February. A man imprisoned for a debt of four cents. March. Hiram Finch and E. W. Fuller, constables; Wm. Foster and Caleb Weeks, saddlers; Jabez and George Frink, blacksmiths. July 13th, Deacon Deans finished raising the steeple of the Presbyterian church; the bank question was decided this afternoon in favor of Dundaff. July 28th, Esq. Post's woods on fire just below Mr. Etheridge's—wind from the south, and the village in danger of being consumed. August. Theatre (Archbold's) at the academy; religious meetings held in the same building on the Sabbath; Bible society and S. S. Union hold annual meetings here. December, S. F. Keeler & L. Catlin, tanners and curriers; J. W. Raynsford and James Deans, committee to raise subscriptions for a singing school this winter. Jerre Lyons mentions the putting up of a new article of comfort for those times—a stove.

1826.—Asa Hartshorn purchases the Montrose drug store; teams go to New York for goods on the 6th of April and return the 24th. June 22d, Dedication of Presbyterian church; pews sold August 28th, highest bid, \$86. August 26th, Dimock & Fuller's office raised on east side of avenue, where is now Lyons & Co.'s store; subscriptions in county for Wyoming monument; J. C. Biddle succeeds Wm. Drinker as agent of the "Drinker Estate;" law partnership of A. H. Read and John N. Conyngham.

1827.—Charter revoked of Northern Bank of Pennsylvania, at Dundaff. February 26th. Baptists begin to draw timber for their meeting-house; its raising finished June 28th. March. Internal improvement meeting at court-house; canal commissioners anxious to bring trade of northern Pennsylvania to Philadelphia; help for the Greeks; address by Eld. Dimock; supplies sent, with \$86 in money, from Montrose. Postage, not over thirty miles, six cents; over thirty and not eighty miles, ten cents; over eighty and not one hundred and fifty miles, eighteen and three-fourths cents; over one hundred and fifty and not four hundred miles, twenty-five cents. July 4th. Bible, tract, and domestic missionary societies, and S. S. Union met; discourses delivered by Elder Dimock and Rev. Burr Baldwin; anniversary of same societies October 3d. December, Montrose *Alumnus Eloquence* meet for debate.

1828.—Stage route established to Chenango Point. March 30th. Prot. Epis. service at the academy; in May following, a visit was paid by Bishop Onderdonk. May. Wm. Foster & A. H. Bolles, shoemakers. (The latter studied medicine with Dr. Fraser, and became a practicing physician. He built the house which stood for many years on the site of D. D. Sayre's residence, and which served as a parsonage to Episcopalians, Universalists, and Presbyterians, in succession.) C. Cornwall and Allen G. Plum were wagon-makers, forty rods east of the court-house; Daniel Searle succeeds Buckingham in charge of Montrose Hotel; Asa Harsthor's drug store, which occupied the corner of his house (now Mrs. Fanny Lathrop's), was moved down to the site of Read's store; a sidewalk was laid up the avenue; "hooped skirts come again;" store established by M. S. Wilson and Wm. L. Post. December. Meeting to form a temperance society, forty-one gentlemen members.

1829.—January 8th. A ball in honor of Andrew Jackson at D. Curtis', and an oration at the court-house, by B. Jones; Hough & Prindle, tailors, over the store of Porter & Keene; the latter disposed of their stock to C. Avery & Co.; washing-machines by Samuel A. Brownson and Stephen Hinds; E. Walker's fanning-mill; Samuel Hodgdon and I. P. Foster remove in 1829; controversy about Sabbath mails; G. & H. D. Fuller, dry goods, groceries, etc., opposite Montrose Hotel—no liquors; music school, T. T. Evans taught the German flute and clarionette; Elder Dimock preached three sermons on the Sabbath, after having preached a New-Year's discourse the Thursday previous. February. Judge Herrick came Saturday evening to attend court, and left the following Wednesday. [This item and a number following are from the diary of D. Post, Esq.] Ordination of Elder J. W. Parker and of Baptist deacons in the Presbyterian meeting-house. July 1st. Dr. Mason Denison's house raised; Hyde Crocker occupied his house (late Walter Foster's) at the lower end of the village—then next house to D. Post's; a house opposite H. C.'s was built for a parsonage and afterwards called the Judd house; Luther Catlin & S. F. Keeler dissolve partnership; J. & B. R. Lyons' store.

1829.—Bounty of thirty-seven and a half cents for the scalp of a full-grown fox; for that of a wild-cat, \$1.00; of those not full grown, twenty-five cents each. Lewis Brush on Harrington farm. Fashions for May; "the sleeves are of a frightful breadth; when you have taken the quantity of stuff necessary for the gown, cut just the same quantity, and it will be about enough to make the sleeves." Ladies with gaiters, to be seen—"an instance of downright departure from the proper modest bearing of the sex." A gentleman of Newburg offered "a reward of five dollars for the lady who will wear the smallest hat in church for the next six months." The same paper ('Susquehanna Register') contained S. S. Mulford's advertisement of "Leghorn and Navarino Bonnets," the size of which was probably never exceeded.

1830.—Excitement about Delaware and Hudson Canal and Railroad. At a meeting in Montrose, of which D. Post was chairman and C. Avery secre-

tary, it was "Resolved, It is the sense of this meeting that the interests of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company are so intimately connected with the prosperity of the county, that an injury to the one will be seriously felt by the other." At an anti-masonic meeting it was "Resolved, That in our belief, Christianity is all-sufficient to promote charity, peace, harmony, friendship, and brotherly love, thro' the whole world, without the aid of a secret society which is limited in its charitable deeds." Reuben Harris, chairman; George Walker, C. Avery, and Geo. Fuller, standing committee; Joel Lamb, Warren Bailey, Dr. C. Fraser, G. Fuller, Thos. Christian, Simon Stevens, committee of vigilance. Great interest felt in North Branch Canal. May 27th. D. Post mentions going with Wm. Jessup "to see where they had been digging for coal down on Snake Creek." Admiral Rupley, tin and sheet-iron manufactory. Mr. R. built the house now the residence of B. R. Lyons. James Eldridge and Alvan Dana, cabinet-makers. M. Curtis and L. Searle, dry goods, etc., one door east of Hartshorn's drug store. B. G. Grover & Co., boot and shoemakers. P. Hepburn, in Montrose hotel. U. Cushman and C. F. A. Volz, merchants. Wilson & Post remove to new store, Dewitt's corner. December. S. S. Mulford enters new house and store on the avenue. Census of Montrose, 415. Benjamin Hitchcock, merchant.

1831.—Post-office removed from the hotel to Post's (Dewitt's) Corner. Misses Sutton, milliners, over A. Baldwin's harness shop. James Seymour surveys Susquehanna and Lackawanna Railroad, from Owego, *via* Chenango Point and Lanesboro' to Carbondale. Fourth of July celebrated by eight Sunday-schools: Union Sunday-school, Wm. Jessup, superintendent; St. Paul's church, J. W. Raynsford; Bridgewater, first, B. Sayre; second, J. W. Hill; third, N. Scott; fourth, James Deans; Lawsville, Lyman Smith; Friendsville, Thomas Christian; nearly four hundred scholars and teachers; Elder Dimock, president of the day; Revs. D. Deruelle and S. Marks, speakers. First complaint of public buildings; question whether a new court-house should be erected here, or in some other village possessing superior advantages for a domestic mart. Proposal to set off a part of Susquehanna County with Wayne and Luzerne, and make the county seat Carbondale—"the undoubted future emporium of Northeastern Pennsylvania." Complaint of meeting-house floors besmeared with tobacco, or of slips adorned with spittoons filled with saw-dust and quids. D. Post & Son, store. October. A railroad meeting; delegates elected to a general convention in relation to a contemplated railroad from the city or county of New York to Lake Erie, to be holden at Owego, in December. Tuesday morning, 1 o'clock, December 27th. Great fire on Public avenue, west side; extended "from Post's Corner, and included it, with the 'Register' office in which the fire originated, the store of Avery & Drinker, J. & B. R. Lyons' store, house, and granary, and the building owned by Doctor Denison, the front room of which was occupied by the 'Volunteer' office, and the remainder by the family of E. Kingsbury, Esq. The fire was extinguished by tearing down and removing the store of C. Cushman, and by bringing the engine to play upon his dwelling-house (the site of W. J. Mulford's store). [The engine must have been the "Water Witch," though this appears to be the first mention of it.] A meeting in the court-house to form a Universalist society. Lecture by Rev. George Rogers.

1832.—Newspaper dispute between Elder D. Dimock and Rev. S. Marks, in reference to "revivals." Mail from Montrose to Towanda tri-weekly. More railroad routes proposed, one of which was to come within half a mile of Montrose. August 9. Day of fasting and prayer in view of the ravages of cholera. D. D. Warner in Franklin Hotel. June 1. Lyons and Bennet, new store over the ruins of the former. Circuit court in August; ten cases, all but one, ejectments. Public dinner given at D. Curtis' to soldiers of the Revolution, September 12th, during a special court held for the purpose of

hearing and examining applicants under the new pension law; upwards of forty gray-headed veterans attended, and on Monday (11th), they paraded under command of Capt. Potter, an officer of the Revolution. The drum was beaten by one of their number, and, after marching, they were addressed by Judge Dimock. Many of them were upwards of eighty years of age, and their exercises were performed with astonishing precision and spirit. Simeon Wylie, Elias Van Winkle, E. Wakefield, Rufus Kingsley, and Asahel Gregory gave toasts at the dinner. September. Montrose Temperance Hotel, by B. Sayre; "a variety of wholesome and refreshing drinks will be kept as a substitute for ardent spirits." "Protracted meetings" in the fall of 1832, and early in the winter, by the evangelist Burchard. Seven wolves shot not far from Montrose; numerous sheep had been killed. Charles Beardsley's carriage factory. Citizens meet to consult about establishing a bank at Montrose.

1833.—Wm. Wynn arrives with the "Hygeian Vegetable Medicines of the British College of Health, London, invented by J. Morrison;" a meeting of the fire company, of which C. Cushman was chairman and Geo. Williston secretary; indignation at the little spirit of the community in providing an efficient engine; Read & Wurts' law office, at the Silver Lake Bank; plaster and salt hauled from Owego; the front-room of the long, low building then newly-erected for the 'Register' printing-office, across Turnpike Street from Mason Wilson's residence, was used as a tailor shop; the building stood about thirty years; C. L. Ward, editor of the 'Register,' built the front of the house next west of it, and occupied it after his first marriage; it was purchased by Leonard Searle, and occupied by him until he took the Montrose Hotel; Mr. Etheridge buried his bees for the winter, and, in the spring of 1833, found them in good condition. Dr. Buck, dental surgeon, at Sayre's Hotel. Asa Hartshorn sells out his drugs and jewelry to Bentley & Mitchell. Constitutional reform meetings. December. M. C. Tyler, traveling merchant, has a store over that of Lyons & Co.; open Mondays and Tuesdays; his residence was then one door below B. T. Case's.

1834.—April. Doctor Daniel Avery Lathrop at the old stand of Dr. Fraser; soon leaves to form partnership with Dr. Leet, in Friendsville. Sharp discussions respecting the act of Legislature which established a system of education by common schools. Frost on the 4th of June. Fourth of July. Twenty-four ladies in white represented twenty-four States. "A novel and handsome display of fireworks in the evening." Friday, July 11th. Tribute to Lafayette; large procession of citizens and school children; funeral sermon by Rev. T. Stow. Dental surgeon, J. M. Finch. Preserved Hinds in Montrose Hotel. October. Dr. Porter in house formerly occupied by A. Hartshorn. Montrose furnace and plow-shop by David Post and John Carman. Wilson & Raynsford, merchants.

1835.—December. Burying-ground to be inclosed with a stone wall. In the spring, a meeting of "those who have enrolled themselves to form a fire company," the old organization having been given up. September. Stephen Hinds in "Farmer's Hotel" (a building that stood below Keeler's). Dr. B. A. Denison where Rev. Burr Baldwin now lives. November. "Itinerant corps dramatique," at Keeler's. J. Etheridge's grocery and provision store—the "Arcade."

1836.—January 7th. Unprecedented storm, which commenced Thursday evening and continued three days and a part of another; snow over three feet deep on a level, and from six to ten feet where drifted. This storm "exceeded any one probably ever experienced in this part of the country, by our oldest inhabitants." The weather was extremely cold, hundreds of cattle and other animals died—"nothing like it since April 1, 1807." Only one mail in nearly a week. February 18th. "Owing to the extreme depth of the snow in the woods, it is with great difficulty the deer can plunge through it. Our citizens have engaged in hunting them on snow-shoes, and four have

been caught and brought *alive* into this place this week." February 25th. Death of Mrs. C. L. Ward, daughter of J. W. Raynsford, Esq.; she, and the Misses Fanny Post (Mrs. Jackson), A. L. Fraser, Dotha Catlin (Mrs. Wm. L. Post), Mrs. Lusk, and Mary Barnard (Mrs. George Fuller), have been designated as a bevy of "Montrose beauties." March. S. B. Bennet gives a public concert at the Presbyterian church, with a choir of singers trained by him. Dr. W. Terbell purchases the stand of B. A. Denison, M.D. It was said of the latter: "He can't show off so much as Dr. —, but he understands the *theater* of medicine better!" Anti-slavery discussions, warm and frequent. E. S. Castle in Montrose Hotel. Webb & Williston, merchants, dissolve. Ladies' "Mental and Moral Improvement Society;" first meeting in the Presbyterian church. Dr. Josiah Blackman, from Binghanton, locates one door below S. S. Mulford. Case & Hancock, hatters. "The Washington Band," of Montrose, give a concert at the Baptist church. The first visit of a governor to Northern Pennsylvania, made by Gov. Ritner, who came to Montrose. The hay scales on the avenue, opposite M. C. Tyler's store.

1837.—A remarkable aurora borealis, late in January. Dr. B. A. Denison died, aged sixty-four. April 13th. "The bill to charter a bank, to be located at this place, has become a law." P. Hinds again in Montrose Hotel. "Four daily stages, and one tri-weekly stage, meet here at night and depart in the morning." An immense red barn then stood north of the hotel, with the great doors open on the avenue. J. Etheridge's "Arcade" was next north of it. December. Eld. Dimock's farewell discourse. Bank of Susquehanna County; directors elected October 9th; J. C. Biddle (president), Wm. Jessup, I. Post, S. S. Mulford, Wm. Ward, D. Post, F. Lusk, Jesse Lane, C. L. Ward, William L. Post, Daniel Searle, M. S. Wilson, Charles Avery.

1838.—July. C. F. Read, postmaster, in place of Wm. L. Post. September. Dr. Mason Denison died, aged fifty years. Bank began operations Dec. 17th, Isaac Kellum, cashier; broke Nov. 1849, T. P. St. John, cashier. December. Wood-bee for the widows and needy of Montrose. Wood cut on farm of Calvin Cox; M. C. Tyler, H. J. Webb, and B. S. Bentley, committee.

1839.—A parting public supper to Judge Herrick. Montrose, Bridge-water, Choconut, New Milford, Jackson, Gibson, and other townships within the bounds of the contemplated new county, send memorials to the Legislature against a division of the county. Susquehanna County Mutual Insurance Company; J. C. Biddle, president, I. Kellum, treasurer, J. W. Raynsford, secretary.

1840.—February 27th. "Snow is quite a stranger in this mountain land; lilacs begin to bud; at least one farmer has cast in his spring wheat. C. D. Cox in Montrose Hotel. Thomas Jackson, physician. Drs. E. S. Park and Ezra Patrick in partnership.

1841.—February 5th. Parting supper to Judge Conyngham, by the Susquehanna bar. "Festival conducted on temperance principles;" Judge Conyngham said:—

"Disclaiming every intention of making invidious comparisons, and particularly of speaking one word in disparagement of the county where my residence is located (Luzerne), and over whose courts I am called to preside; there is no county in Pennsylvania that stands so high in the scale of morality as the county of Susquehanna. This fact, so honorable to the inhabitants, is not only established by the records of her courts; it is conceded *by all*; and if it had been my lot to have had my residence within her limits, no considerations would have induced me to make the separation." Referring to this, the 'United States Gazette' styles Susquehanna the "Banner County." At this supper, J. T. Richards referred to Horace Williston, Esq., as "Our absent father-in-law." He was one of the most prominent of the

early non-resident lawyers who practiced here. The village cemetery, of one and a half acres, with right of way, purchased for \$300.

1842.—Daguerreotypes taken in Montrose (first time) by Edwin Foot. Montrose procures a cannon. May 21st. Revival of military honors. In June, frosts, the mercury nearly to 0 F. October. Animal magnetism attracting attention. 31st. Public meeting to form a fire company (the present No. 1); organized in November. "General Taylor was then hewing his way to the 'Halls of the Montezumas,' and from his mode of fighting had won the sobriquet of *Rough and Ready*. This name was suggested and adopted."

The events of the last thirty years are presumed to be too fresh in the public mind to render further itemizing necessary, and the record is now left to some future annalist. A few dates, however, may be acceptable.

The second large fire occurred in May, 1851, and swept the western side of the avenue, with the exception of one house on each end, viz., Searle's and Webb's.

The fire of November, 1854, was still more destructive; commencing in the harness shop of A. Baldwin (where is now the drug store of Burns & Nichols), two houses east of that were burned—James Eldridge's large building and Mason Wilson's store; then westward the stores of Bentley & Read, A. Turrell, and the dwelling of I. L. Post, then the only brick building in the place—and crossing the street, the residence of Judge I. Post, and all the buildings south on both sides of the street to the house of Mrs. Turrell and the storehouse of S. F. Keeler.

A week later the old "Farmer's Hotel"—once Howell's, Fuller's, and Hinds', etc., was burned. Before the next fire, No. 2 Fire Company was organized, and, like the first, comprised many of the business men of the place. About 2 o'clock in the morning, March 19, 1863, the old foundry of S. H. Sayre & Brothers was totally destroyed by fire. The 'Republican' of the same week stated that the establishment had added \$100,000 per year, for three years, to the prosperity of our business population. Its destruction was a great loss to the community. But, with favors from some of the liberal-hearted, the firm were able to re-establish themselves, and to extend their business. In 1870, they manufactured and sold seventy-five Hubbard mowing-machines, fifty with reapers attached—also repaired about two hundred in addition to their other business.

The following is the number of hands employed by Sayre Brothers, in each department of the foundry: machine shop, 9; blacksmith shop, 3; wood shop, 6; moulding room, 13; cleaning room, 2; painter, 1; steam-mill, 1.

Early in February, 1866, the Keystone Hotel, Wm. K. Hatch, proprietor, was burned. It stood upon the site of Mr. Sayre's house, which had also been burned fifteen years earlier, and had

been occupied by him as a residence several years, before he sold it to Mr. Hatch.

On the 26th February, 1870, Searle's hotel, also a bookstore in which the fire originated, and the express office were burned—the buildings all owned by L. Searle.

At present there are four fire engines in the place, two of No. 1 Company, one of No. 2, and one of the "Wide Awake" Company, who use the engine first brought here.

In addition to the manufactory and foundry of the Sayre Brothers, Montrose and vicinity has a fork factory, woolen mills, a "building-blocks" factory,¹ eight dry goods and general merchandise stores, four shoe, and two jewelry stores, six groceries, three eating saloons (no liquor), two drug, and two hardware stores, four blacksmith shops, three insurance offices, three milliners, three or four mantua-makers, three liveries, three wagon shops, two tanneries; two shops of each of the following: cabinet-makers and undertakers, carpenters, turning and scroll-saw, coopers, saddle and harness, barbers, news-dealers; also, two hotels, two meat markets, and two printing-offices; one shop of each of the following: light-cabinet, pattern, upholsterer, and marble dealer; one banking house, a book-bindery, an ashery, an express-office, and a photograph gallery; thirteen lawyers' offices, two justices', six physicians', and one dentist's.

The court-house and jail are both fine structures.

A machine for bending hay, straw, and manure forks of every

¹ The blocks were invented in December, 1866, and patent issued February 5, 1867. A few small sales were made in December, previous to granting of patent.

Early in 1867, the blocks were shown by Mr. Crandall, the inventor, to Bar-num, of New York, who was so much impressed with their novelty and beauty that he gave them a place in his museum, where they remained on exhibition for several weeks. By this time the demand for them had so much increased that the attention of Mr. Crandall was required at home in the invention and perfection of adequate machinery for their production. That year the sales amounted to about ten thousand dollars.

In January, 1868, a contract was made with the publishers of the 'American Agriculturist,' of New York, Messrs. Orange Judd & Co., for the sale of all the blocks manufactured, which amounted in that year to about thirty thousand dollars.

In October, 1868, Mr. George Welles Comstock, of New York, became a partner in the business, and the firm is now C. M. Crandall & Co. About twenty thousand dollars' worth of toy railway trains will be manufactured this year. The market for these, as well as the blocks, is principally found in New York, from which, through the regular channels of trade, they find their way to every State in the Union. A few days since you might have seen in New York a case of Crandall's blocks marked for Australia, and several more for Liverpool, England. Messrs. Crandall & Co. will cut up this year about 200,000 feet of bass-wood lumber, and some 65,000 feet of hemlock boards will be required to make the packing-cases. About forty regular hands are employed this year. The factory is the second, or upper story of Sayre Brothers' foundry building, and is 40 feet wide and 250 feet long. Twenty circular saws are in operation, and other machinery in proportion. [From 'Republican,' 1870.]

description has lately been invented by G. R. Lathrop, and is now in use in the fork factory.

M. T. Jackson has lately obtained a patent for a carriage top; and H. L. Beach for a scroll-saw.

The population of Montrose by the census of 1830, was 415; in 1860, it was 1263, and in 1870, 1463.

The Montrose and Bridgewater Poor Asylum has been in successful operation for the last five years; and affords a comfortable and pleasant home for our poor.

After the passage of the act of incorporation in the spring of 1864, the directors purchased a farm in Bridgewater township, containing one hundred and twenty five acres, at a cost of \$4357; also stock and the necessary farming implements. Notwithstanding this "enormous expense," the debt and interest have been paid; additional personal property has been purchased; the paupers in both districts have been kept for five years, and now the property—real and personal—is worth \$8000; all paid for at the rate of eight mills on the dollar of valuation, on an average each year—and this too, without resorting to the indictable offence of selling the keeping of paupers to the lowest bidder.

HON. ALMON H. READ.

Almon Heath Read was born at Shelburne, Vermont, June 12, 1790. He remained at home with his father, working on the farm, until seventeen years of age. He then entered Williams College, Massachusetts, and graduated in 1811. During his collegiate course, on one of his visits home, he gave his views on political affairs, favoring a Democratic policy; and his father, a stern old Whig, threatened that unless he gave up his Democratic notions, he would take him from college, and set him to work on the farm. It appears, however, that after his graduation he studied law for two years in Albany, where his political notions were not disturbed.

In 1814, he was drafted into the military service, just before the battle of Plattsburg, and arrived there the day after the battle; his company was disbanded, and thus suddenly ended his military career.

Soon after, he left his home in Vermont, on horseback, with a pair of saddle-bags, and a few dollars in his pocket, for the State of Ohio—then *the far West*—where he expected to settle. But, on reaching Mott's tavern on the old Newburgh turnpike, in New Milford township, the roads were nearly impassable, the mud being knee-deep to the horse. He learned that one of his young associates, Col. Wm. C. Turrell, had settled a few miles south of Montrose, and he concluded to turn aside from his route and spend a few days with him, hoping the roads would improve, and that he might then proceed on his journey.

On reaching Montrose, which was then a new county-seat—the first court having been held the year previous—he was prevailed upon to remain, and was offered the position of clerk to the county commissioners. He applied for admission to the bar of Susquehanna County; but the only settled (?) lawyer then in practice here, objected, as he had not pursued the requisite course of study in accordance with the rules of Pennsylvania courts. He was therefore compelled to enter his name as a student, in the office of Judge Scott, of Wilkes-Barre. Very soon after, the objection was withdrawn, and he became a regular practitioner.



A. H. Reed

In 1816, Mr. Read married Miss Eliza Cooper, of Southampton, Long Island, and then settled permanently in Montrose, where he prosecuted his profession¹ (at the same time holding the office of county clerk, from January 1, 1815, to January 1, 1820), and became much interested in the progress and growth of the town. He took a lively interest in the establishment of the Academy, and later, when the temperance movement was first agitated, he became one of its warmest supporters.

It does not appear that he took any prominent part in politics until about 1827, when he was elected as Representative.

In 1828, he was not a candidate, but was elected in 1829, '30, '31, and '32.

In 1833, he was elected State Senator and served for four years. He was soon after elected State Treasurer, which office he held one year, and was then elected a member of the convention to revise the Constitution of Pennsylvania. He took a prominent part in this convention. After its close, the chairs occupied by the members were sold at public auction. The one used by Mr. Read was sold for \$14 (being the first choice), and the remaining one hundred and thirty-one seats for prices varying from \$3 to \$10.

Soon after he accepted an invitation of the citizens of Erie County to a banquet at Erie, and they there presented him with a beautiful oak cane, having upon it six silver plates bearing the following inscription :—

Presented by the Democratic
citizens of Erie County, to

Almon H. Read, for his dis-
tinguished services in the

Convention to reform the
Constitution of Pennsylvania.

Commodore O. H. Perry's Victory,
Lake Erie, Sept. 11, A. D. 1813.

"We have met the enemy
and they are ours."

Taken from the Flag-ship
Lawrence, Aug. 4th, A. D. 1833.

His name was sent by Gov. Porter to the Senate, as President Judge of one of the Western Judicial Districts of the State; but the Senate being equally divided between the Democrats and Whigs, the vote was a tie; and his nomination was not confirmed.

In March, 1842, he was elected to Congress to fill the unexpired term of Hon. Davis Dimock, Jr.; and, in the fall of 1842, he was re-elected for the years 1843 and 1844. In Oct. 1843, his wife died, after a short illness; and soon afterwards, whilst on his way to Washington, he took a severe cold, which terminated in consumption, and which, during that session, prevented him to a great extent from participating in its deliberations. Even his political enemies esteemed him a pure legislator.

During his sickness at Washington, in order to show his regret at having been a politician, he said to his son: "Never accept an office from the people. I have always been successful whenever my name came before the electors, for fifteen years, never having been defeated, and all I have ever received as compensation is *this* (holding up his Erie cane), and a few newspaper puffs; leaving my family in a far different position from that which

¹ He was often called the "honest lawyer," from the fact that he was never known to engage in a case for a client, unless he honestly thought him *in the right*; and always discouraged the petty litigation so prevalent at the present day.

they probably would have held, had I pursued my profession; besides depriving myself, for a great portion of each year, of the comforts of a home."

Mr. Buchanan having called upon him and inquired after his health, he replied he hoped to be well enough to start for home in a few days. Mr. B. urged him to stay in Washington, as it was a better climate than the north for consumptives; but he replied, "Mr. Buchanan, you have no children, no home-ties; I desire to go home and die among my children."

He predicted that the slavery question would soon result in a terrible struggle between the North and the South.

Although very feeble, he succeeded in reaching home about the first of May, 1844, and on the third of June following he died, in the 54th year of his age.

The Hon. B. A. Bidlack pronounced a eulogy in the House of Representatives upon the character and services of Mr. Read, in which he said: "He was possessed of a strong, vigorous, and cultivated intellect, which enabled him to be a distinguished member of all the deliberative assemblies with which he was associated, so long as the health of his body permitted the free and full exercise of the powers of his energetic mind."

Mr. Read was in politics a Democrat of the old school, as opposed to the Whig party.

HON. WILLIAM JESSUP.

William Jessup was born at Southampton, L. I., June 21, 1797. He graduated at Yale College, 1815. Three years later, he, with several others, left his native place for Montrose, and entered the law office of A. H. Read, Esq. The following winter, he taught the first term of the first academy here. He was admitted to the bar, February, 1820. In July of the same year he married Amanda Harris, of Long Island.

He held the office of register and recorder for the county by appointment of Governors Shulze and Wolf, from January, 1824, nine years, and declined a re-appointment in 1833. In 1838, he was appointed, by Governor Ritner, president judge of the eleventh judicial district of Pennsylvania, which then comprised the counties of Luzerne, Pike, and Monroe. "Upon the accession of the Hon. John N. Conyngham to the presidency of the adjoining district, a transfer was made by the legislature of the counties of Luzerne and Susquehanna, that accommodated both judges in respect to residence. Upon the expiration, in 1848, of his first constitutional term upon the bench, Judge Jessup was re-appointed by Governor Johnston to the district then composed of Luzerne, Susquehanna, and Wyoming. Here he continued to preside until the term again expired in 1851; prior to which he had been nominated by a State convention of the Whig party, as one of the five judges of the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth, but that party was, as usual, defeated at the following election. He then returned once more to his favorite profession." In this he was actively engaged until disabled by paralysis, in the year 1863. In 1848, Hamilton College conferred upon him the merited degree of LL.D.

As a lawyer, "he was quick and persevering, a strong advocate both with the court and with the jury, winning success with the former by the clearness and correctness of his legal knowledge, and with the latter by the force of his character, the fairness and strength of his argument." The first authority quoted, says: "One of his most brilliant forensic triumphs may be reckoned his defence of the Rev. Albert Barnes, of Philadelphia, upon the charge of heresy, before the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church."

The second authority continues: "His judicial course was characterized by great ability, clearness, impartiality, and a stern adherence to integrity and uprightness. As a citizen, he was a person of great public spirit, liberal in his views, and generous in his gifts, both of time and money, for the public welfare. He was affable and courteous in his bearing to the humblest of



Myers

his acquaintance. In politics he was strongly Republican, and entered into the prosecution of the late war with zeal."

The temperance movement, the interests of the oppressed, the cause of education, and the advancement of agriculture received his early and continued hearty co-operation.

He joined the Presbyterian church of Montrose, September 3, 1826, and was ordained a ruling elder of the same, August 2, 1829. "It became almost a proverb," as stated in a discourse preached at his funeral, "that the pungent sermons of the pastor were fitly supplemented by Judge Jessup's glowing arguments and pathetic appeals."

"Much that is noble in the development, achievements, and position of many persons is directly attributable to him."

He was widely known and highly honored throughout the New-School branch of the church to which he belonged; but nowhere did his Christian character shine with greater lustre than among those who knew him best. He became vice-president of the A. B. C. F. M., and cheerfully gave up two sons as foreign missionaries. Of these, Henry Harris Jessup, D.D., is at present professor of Biblical Literature in the Protestant Theological Seminary at Beirut, Syria. Judge Jessup died September 11, 1868. Of his eleven children, eight are still living.

HENRY DRINKER, THE ELDER.

Henry Drinker, at the time of his decease one of the largest landholders in Pennsylvania, was the second son of Henry Drinker, of Philadelphia, and Mary Gottier, of Burlington, N. J. He was born 21st February 1734, (old style). When twenty-five years of age, he embarked for England, returning in the following year. Letters written by him during this tour are still extant among his descendants, and they bear evidence to the fact that he was a man of observation, and graphic powers of description. Soon after his return, on the 13th January, 1761, he was married to Elizabeth Sandwith.

The lands of Henry Drinker were located in Wayne, Luzerne, Wyoming, Center, Clearfield, Indiana, Cambria, Bradford, Tioga, and Susquehanna counties, in Pennsylvania; and in Montgomery and Delaware counties, New York.

He was a staunch member of the Society of Friends, and for this reason, was not brought so much before the public, as he in all probability, otherwise would have been; the members of this denomination not being in the habit of taking an active part in public affairs. He was for many years a member of the firm of James & Drinker, shipping and importing merchants, of Philadelphia; they were very successful in their business previous to the Revolution.

One of the cardinal doctrines of the Society of Friends is opposition to war in every form, and a firm and decided refusal to bear arms in support of any cause, however just. In consequence, he, with nineteen other persons, seventeen of the number being Friends, were arrested and taken, first to Staunton, Va., and afterwards to Winchester, Va., where they were kept in partial confinement nearly eight months, without provision being made for their support.

His first speculations in lands were in the purchase of farms in the settled counties, principally adjoining Philadelphia County, in which transactions he was very successful, and this led him into his large purchases of wild lands. He was a man of great business ability. He resided in Philadelphia, and died in 1808.

The late Esq. Raynsford, of Montrose, and Hosea Tiffany, were the first purchasers of any of his land in Susquehanna County, under the Pennsylvania title. They walked to Philadelphia to obtain their deeds.

HENRY DRINKER.

Henry Drinker, son of Henry S. Drinker of Philadelphia, and grandson of Henry Drinker the elder, founder of the "Drinker Estate," was born in the year 1804, near Philadelphia. After living for a short time at Stroudsburg, Pa., he came to Susquehanna County, about the year 1828, remaining for a time on a farm in Springville (now Dimock). He became a partner of the late James C. Biddle, in the agency of the Drinker estate; to the full agency of which he succeeded, upon the death of Mr. Biddle. In the year 1845 he was married to Frances Morton of Wilmington, Del., and continued to reside in Montrose until his decease, which occurred on the 5th February, 1868.

His life, like that of most of the residents of Montrose who have taken no active part in political affairs, was devoid of incident; but it may be truly said of him, his instincts were generous, and his liberality worthy of example by others. It is to his influence and means that the congregation of St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal church of Montrose are largely indebted for the handsome house of worship they now occupy.

He took an interest in everything appertaining to agriculture; was fond of, and took pleasure in the cultivation and ornamentation of the grounds about his residence, and had also a fondness for fine horses, as well as for other domestic animals. To his own proper employment he added that of a farmer and banker, and for some years previous to his decease, he had owned and superintended the operations of two farms in the immediate neighborhood of Montrose. He was at one time president of the County Agricultural Society.

JAMES C. BIDDLE.

James C. Biddle was a native of Philadelphia, born December 23d, 1802. He was early educated to business habits, having served his apprenticeship to the shipping and commission business, and on November 1, 1825, he left the counting-house of Smith & Stewardson of that city, and in the year 1826 came to Susquehanna County as agent for the Drinker estate, and soon won the esteem and confidence of the settlers by his liberality and indulgence. On the 3d April 1828, he was married in Philadelphia to Sally Drinker, a granddaughter of the founder of the estate; and after his marriage, Montrose became his permanent residence.

In order to qualify himself properly to conduct the business of his agency, he commenced the study of law under the Hon. Wm. Jessup, and in the spring of the year 1836, was duly admitted to the bar of Susquehanna County. He was pre-eminently a man of public spirit, and sagacious business qualifications, and he won among his neighbors, and throughout the county, a popularity as extensive as it was well-deserved.

As president of the Bank of Susquehanna County, of the Mutual Insurance Company, and as an active director and patron of various other institutions, his services were important; while his name, so far as it was known, yielded unbounded respect and confidence. Many had cause to remember his cheerful benevolence and unostentatious charity.

But eminent as was his usefulness in a public capacity, his private worth among his immediate friends and neighbors, and in the domestic circle, was more truly inestimable.

His death occurred at Philadelphia, whither he had gone on business, March 31st, 1841, in the thirty-ninth year of his age.

The usual resolutions of respect and condolence with the family were passed by the various corporations with which he was connected. Though highly eulogistic, they expressed no more than what every one who knew him felt was his due.



ENGRAVED BY J. H. BROWN

Henry Dinker

CHURCHES.

Notice of the Baptist church having already been given in the sketch of Elder D. Dimock, a few items only need be added.

Henry Congdon, Asa Baldwin, Jonathan Wheaton, David Knowlton, Samuel Baldwin, and Luther Dean covenanted together and were duly recognized "as the Baptist Church of Christ of Bridgewater, Pa.," April 9th, 1808, by Elder Dimock and other brethren of the Exeter church, at the log-house of Bartlet Hinds. Two days later, the church met at Henry Congdon's, and received into membership Sarah Congdon, Mary Baldwin, Achsah Knowlton, and Betsey Baldwin. It was not until the 4th of May following that Bartlet Hinds presented testimonials of his membership of the 2d Middleboro' Baptist church, Mass., and was received here. His wife Agnes, Stephen Wilson, and John Gardener were baptized by Elder Dimock, and added to the church. During the following fifty years over one thousand members were received by baptism and by letter. Eleven had been ordained deacons, and ten licensed to preach. Several years, following April, 1837, were years of trial on account of a division of sentiment on the subject of slavery. Forty-six disaffected members received letters of dismission, August, 1839, and afterwards organized "The Montrose and Bridgewater Baptist church." This was disbanded, and most of the members returned to the old church (the anti-slavery party) during the great revival of 1842-3.

The pastors of the church have been: Elders Dimock, Worden, Post ("supply"), Taylor, Glanville, Ransted, Wyeth, Stone, Morse, Ford, and at present, John E. Chesshire, D.D. Others have occasionally ministered to the church some weeks at a time; Elder Fox was connected with one or two revivals here.

The house of worship was commenced in 1827; the first service in it was held December 10th, 1829. The building was materially enlarged, and a basement added about twenty years ago.

The first Congregational church of Bridgewater was organized at the house of Joseph Raynsford, July 3d, 1810, by Revs. E. Kingsbury, then missionary from Connecticut, and M. Miner York, of Wyalusing, with the following members: Moses Tyler, Edmund Stone, Simeon Tyler, Samuel Davis, Amos West, Phineas Arms, Sarah Tyler, Esther Lathrop, Anna Raynsford (wife of Joseph) Anna Davis, Hannah Fuller, and Hannah, wife of J. W. Raynsford. The first named was chosen deacon.

The sermon on this occasion was preached in the barn of Walter Lathrop, near the barns since erected by his son Daniel; it was burned in 1816. The service was one of great solemnity, and was the prelude to a revival of great power. Church

meetings were held very generally after this, at the house of Edward Fuller.

Rev. Mr. Kingsbury had visited the settlement previously, and baptized children of Mrs. Fuller, Moses and Simeon Tyler. Rev. Wm. Lockwood, another missionary, was here in the fall of 1810. At the first communion, October 4th, Revs. Ard Hoyt and M. M. York were present, and thirty-two joined the church.

On the 19th of June, 1811, Rev. Joseph Wood was installed pastor of the church.

The first parsonage, or, at least, the first minister's residence, was a few rods from the house since occupied by John Stroud, and at present by N. Smith.

Mr. W. preached half the time for the 2d Congregational church of Bridgewater (now Brooklyn). Meetings were held at the South school-house for the first time, September, 1811. A former log school-house was burned.

Deacon Tyler resigned his office May, 1812, and Z. Deans was chosen in his place; he was ordained with P. Arms, December 31st, 1812, and the Articles of Faith and Covenant of the Luzerne Association were then adopted.

On the 28th of January, 1814, the church applied to the New Hampshire Missionary Society for assistance; *twelve of the members contributed forty cents* for the postage on two letters about this business.

Mr. Wood's connection with the church was publicly dissolved September 24th, 1815. A constitution was drawn up at a meeting at the school-house, Thanksgiving day, November 13th, 1815, "for the purpose of forming a permanent ecclesiastical society, for the support of an evangelical gospel minister in Bridgewater." Another meeting was held at the house of J. W. Raynsford the first Monday in Jan. 1816, and an agreement was entered into to support a minister half the time in the village of Montrose, and the other half in the south neighborhood, each man to pay \$1, the half of which might be in produce. But the tide of opinion was not all one way, and a "newspaper war" ensued.

During the same year the Union Bible Society was formed. Luzerne, Susquehanna, and Bradford Counties acting in concert, and this, too, excited great controversy. "A citizen," animadverting upon the constitution of the Bible Society, linked this with banks, turnpike companies, &c., thus: "Every man of sense and information knows that these institutions are diametrically opposite to the principles of a free government. They are engines which I fear will destroy the Republic."(!) Another opposer said of the Bible Society: "The *austensible* object is certainly laudable, but the best of objects will not justify the

worst of means"—referring to the constitution, which he believed "drawn up in an artful, ambiguous manner, peculiarly calculated to trap the unwary."

On "Lord's-day, September 15th, 1816," a meeting for public worship was held at the court-house. Rev. M. M. York, preacher. All meetings for the first half of the year 1817 appear to have been held at the South school-house; but about this time J. W. Raynsford removed to Montrose, and a number of new members being also located here, meetings were held here every alternate Sabbath. There were then four Congregational ministers and seven churches in the county.

In January, 1818, the first mention of Rev. G. N. Judd appeared on the church records. He became the "stated supply" before the following July.

Public worship was held in the academy for the first time, December 20th, 1818.

In May, 1819, the church agreed to give Mr. Judd \$600 per year, by an assessment on the members in proportion to the valuation of their property.

The first board of trustees appointed to transact the business of the society, consisted of Joseph Butterfield, Zeb. Deans, I. P. Foster, Benj. Sayre, and Elizur Price.

The monthly concert of prayer was first mentioned July 4th, 1819. Church meetings were held monthly, and usually at the house of Reuben Wells. A visiting committee of four to six was appointed to serve three months, to call on the church-members, inquire after delinquents, &c.

Mr. Judd, though greatly beloved, was never installed here. He left early in 1820, on account of the health of his wife—a sister of the late Hon. Theo. Frelinghuysen. They had occupied a house which B. Sayre and I. P. Foster built for a parsonage; Mr. Judd putting in some money also, which, when he left, these gentlemen refunded, taking the society for security. Mr. F. eventually received his portion by the sale of the property, but that of Mr. S. was yielded to the society. The house was a two-story framed one, opposite Walter Foster's, at the lower end of the village, and long afterwards known as "The Judd house." It has been taken down.

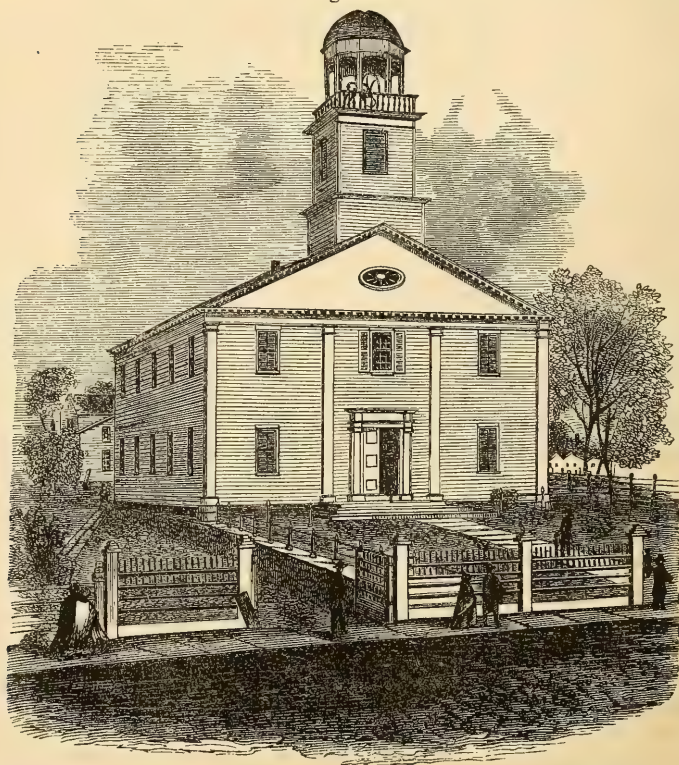
There appears to have been no regular preaching from Feb. 1820 to Feb. 1822, after which Rev. Enoch Conger was here occasionally; he administered the Lord's Supper once in the South school-house, in 1822, and once at the court-house, in 1823. During a visit from Mr. Judd September 12, 1823, after considerable discussion, it was unanimously resolved to adopt the Presbyterian form of government, and seven ruling elders were elected, viz., P. Arms, Z. Deans, R. Wells, M. Tyler, J. W. Raynsford, B. Sayre, and I. P. Foster.

About the same time, Rev. Burr Baldwin came as a missionary to Northeastern Pennsylvania. In the spring of 1824, he brought his family to Montrose and began his pastoral services, but his installation was deferred until the meeting of Presbytery in September following.

The plan hitherto adopted of attending Sabbath worship at the South school-house in the morning, and in the village in the evening, was creating much ill feeling; Mr. Baldwin reversed the order, and the erection of a church in the village was decided upon; the building was raised in July, 1825. The \$1400 which had been subscribed for the church edifice was all expended on the foundation, the timber, and raising it; and Mr. Baldwin set off to N. Y. and Philadelphia to raise funds, returning with \$635. The building was completed, and the first service in it was held on Sabbath, June 4th. It was dedicated June 22, 1826.

[The building at the left and in the rear is the parsonage.]

Fig. 22.



THE OLD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MONTROSE.

It would be delightful to linger here and recount the wonderful work of grace that followed the dedication. There had been none equal to it since 1810. Although the labors of the several ministers here had not been unblest, still nearly half the additions to the church had been by letter. In succeeding years, the old church became enshrined in the hearts of hundreds; and, especially, is its quaint old session-room recalled with tender emotion.

"Ilk place we scan seems still to speak
Of some dear former day—
We think where ilka ane had sat
Or fixt our hearts to pray;
Till soft remembrance drew a veil
Across these een o' mine!"

The pastor's home was in the old "Silver Lake Bank." Rev. Mr. Baldwin's pastorate ended in May, 1829. The preceding year had been one of great trial to the church, owing to the disaffection of some of its members. The organization of the Episcopal church was one result of this; and the healing of differences was followed by a revival of great interest.

In the fall of 1829, the church extended a call to the Rev. Daniel Deruelle, a native of New Jersey. He met with the session for the first time January 21, 1830, and was installed in June following.

The church was greatly prospered during his ministry. He left in 1833, and, his health requiring him to travel, he engaged for some time as the agent of the board of education in the Middle States.

The following is from a parting tribute to him by a parishioner¹:—

"Thine was the skill to look with eye unfailing
Quite through the deeds of men to action's spring;
Nor was thy heaven-born genius unavailing
To wake on feeling's harp the master string."

When Mr. D. left there were 202 members belonging to the church, of whom nine-tenths were members of the temperance society.

Mr. Deruelle died March 4, 1858, in North Carolina, while agent for the American Bible Society. He was about sixty years old.

The Rev. Timothy Stow was here early in 1834, and his labors were continued with this church until the fall of 1838. He was an outspoken, uncompromising anti-slavery advocate, and left a decided impression upon his congregation. A revival was enjoyed in 1835 and in 1837.

Mr. Stow was occasionally absent-minded. He was accustomed to give notice of the evening meeting "at early candle-

¹ Miss A. L. Fraser.

light," or, "at the ringing of the bell;" but, on one occasion, much to the amusement of the congregation, he announced that it would convene "at the ringing of the candles." Both Mr. and Mrs. Stow died some years ago.

During the pastorate of the Rev. H. A. Riley, for twenty-five years succeeding, the church was largely increased by a succession of revivals of unusual power.

He stimulated the church to the erection of the present beautiful brick house of worship. Its cost was about \$15,000. The corner-stone was laid June 13, 1860. The first service held in it was the funeral of the last one of the constituent members of the church, Mrs. Hannah Fuller, December 17, 1861; the first Sabbath service, January 5, 1862; and the dedication, the following 5th of February.

The present pastor, Rev. Jacob G. Miller, was installed in the fall of 1864.

REV. BURR BALDWIN.

Burr Baldwin was born January 19, 1789, in the town of Weston (now Easton), Fairfield County, Connecticut. He entered Staples Academy at eight years of age; at fourteen he was recommended by the principal to read the Bible daily and consecutively—a practice he adopted, and has never relinquished. He believes it to have been one of the chief instruments of his conversion. He entered Yale College (second term Soph.) at eighteen; joined the College church the next year; taught school some months after he graduated, and entered Andover Theological Seminary in 1811. He was twice obliged to give up study on account of his health; the first time he took a journey of five hundred miles on foot, and was benefited; the second time he rode eight hundred miles on horseback in order to ascertain if he could endure the labors of a foreign mission (having been accepted by the A. B. C. F. M.); but returned debilitated. It was not until 1816 that he was able to enter the ministry; he was then licensed by the Litchfield South Association. In the mean time he had taught a classical school at Newark, N. J., and had been eminently successful in Sabbath-school enterprises.

He spent the following year as a missionary along the Ohio River from Steubenville to Marietta—then the far West—and upon his return, was obliged to resign his appointment to the heathen, on account of his health. During the next four years he labored as missionary in New York city and Northern New Jersey, and as agent for the Presbyterian Education and United Foreign Missionary Societies. Soon after his marriage, in July, 1821, he preached, as stated supply in Hardiston and Frankford, N. J., until his mission to Northeastern Pennsylvania and subsequent pastorate here.

After leaving Montrose he was settled in Connecticut and Massachusetts. In 1838 he resumed teaching in Newark, and remained there nine years; his leisure being spent in efforts for the elevation of the working classes. He interested Roman Catholics in the Temperance movement, and obtained twelve hundred names to the pledge. He made strenuous efforts to further the education of the colored race here and in Africa—but the time for the success of his plan had not yet come.

In 1847 he was appointed a missionary of the Montrose Presbytery to strengthen feeble churches and organize new ones. In this undertaking he organized eleven churches, and secured the erection of, at least, twelve church edifices. For such as needed assistance he obtained funds in New



Henry A. Riley

York and Philadelphia, and in each case made it an object to cancel the debt on the building at or prior to its dedication.

In the autumn of 1856 the Southern Aid Society invited him to go to Texas to inquire into the condition of the several evangelical denominations; he accepted and was absent eight months, encountering many physical difficulties and dangers; and returned to renew his labors in the Montrose Presbytery.

In 1859 his labors were transferred to the Genesee Presbytery, where he remained short of two years, when operations were suspended in consequence of the war.

In July, 1862, he was appointed post chaplain at Beverly, Western Va., in the hospital, until it was closed, in 1863.

His last engagement was with the Delaware Presbytery, until April, 1866, when, at the age of seventy-seven years and three months, he laid off the harness; since which time he has been quietly domiciled among us with his family.

REV. HENRY A. RILEY.

Henry Augustus Riley was born in the city of New York, November 21, 1801. At the age of fourteen he was placed at the Roman Catholic College, at Georgetown, D. C., where he remained two years, and where he was led to renounce the Protestant faith of his parents, and to purpose a preparation for the priesthood in that institution—a renunciation and a purpose, however, which were recalled when he was freed from the influences to which he had been subjected.

He graduated in 1820 at the University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia), in the collegiate department; and entered as student of law, in the office of Horace Binney, of that city. Remaining here a few months he was induced, after a very dangerous illness, to commence the study of medicine; and graduated in the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania in 1825.

He commenced the practice of medicine in New York, and continued it until the beginning of 1829, when, from a change in his religious views and feelings, he entered the Theological Seminary, at Princeton, to prepare for the ministry.

He graduated in 1832, and in 1835 was ordained and installed pastor over what was then the Eighth Avenue Presbyterian church, now that of West Twenty-third Street, New York.

In January, 1839, he commenced his ministry at Montrose, Pa., and after a pastorate of just twenty-five years he resigned the position, but has continued to reside in the parish. [See Authors.]

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

October 5, 1829, Bishop Onderdonk confirmed J. W. Raynsford, wife, and eldest daughter; also John Street and wife, as constituent members of St. Paul's church. The ceremony took place in the Presbyterian meeting-house, of which church three of the party were former members. For many years St. Paul's had but two male members.

Not far from this time Rev. Samuel Marks was a resident Episcopalian missionary in the county, officiating in Springville and New Milford; and, in the spring of 1831, in Montrose, at the court-house.

June 2, 1832, the corner-stone of St. Paul's church was laid. Among its contents was the following record:—

“Rector, Rev. S. Marks; Wardens, J. W. Raynsford and J. C. Biddle; Vestry, Benjamin Lathrop, John Melhuish, S. F. Keeler, Henry Drinker, C. L. Ward, and Admiral Rupley; Contractors, Jesse Scott, Enos P. Root—contract, \$1200. Donor of the ground, Reuben B. Locke. Date of charter, December 20, 1830. ‘Our banner is Evangelical Truth and Apostolic Order.’”

This building was 30x43 feet. Service was held Christmas Eve, 1832, when the rector gave reasons for decorating the house with evergreens. It was consecrated by Bishop Onderdonk, October 27, 1833. An organ was purchased in December for \$95.

In December, 1849, land for a parsonage was donated by J. W. Raynsford.

Purchase of land for a new church, September, 1855. Laying of the corner-stone, June 1856; consecrated by Bishop Potter, July 17, 1857. At this time the first rector of the church preached the sermon. The cost of the church was \$7500, and through the liberality of Henry Drinker, Esq., the debt was cancelled so as to allow of its consecration. A new organ was procured, late in 1866, for \$1000. A lot for the erection of a Sabbath-school chapel has been purchased.

The rectors of St. Paul's have been: Revs. S. Marks, W. Peck, Charles E. Pleasants—each at \$150, for half the time, per year—George P. Hopkins, John Long, D. C. Byllesby, Robert B. Peet, Wm. F. Halsey, and E. A. Warriner—the last named on a salary of \$1000, with parsonage.

The old church edifice was sold to the Roman Catholics, who celebrate Mass here once every three weeks. Their first services in Montrose were held at the house of Peter Byrne, about thirty years ago.

A Universalist society was organized here late in 1831. The church was built in 1843, and dedicated July 11, 1844. The preachers of this denomination which are mentioned in the annals of Brooklyn have officiated here, unless the last one is an exception.

The Methodist Episcopal church was built in 1845, on land donated by Hon. William Jessup. It was for a long time weak in numbers and in means; but within the last few years, through a series of revivals unprecedented in this church, its weakness has become strength, both in numbers and influence.

Two African Methodist churches in the borough, and a Union church in South Bridgewater, have been erected within the last twenty-five years.

CHAPTER XXII.

MIDDLETOWN.

THIS township was so named because it was the middle one of the three townships, into which Rush was divided, in 1813. It was bounded on the north by Choconut, east by Bridgewater, south by Rush, and west by Bradford County. Its fair proportions, six miles north and south, by eight miles east and west, have since been twice curtailed by the encroachments of Forest Lake township, leaving the area of Middletown but little over thirty square miles. But this change is scarcely less marked, than the change in the community, which from being originally almost wholly New Englanders, is now composed almost entirely of persons of foreign birth and descent—principally Welsh and Irish. Numerically, the latter predominate. Their immigration dates back less than forty years; while the pioneers of the section now included within Middletown, settled in its forests over seventy years ago. These were Riel Brister and Benjamin Abbott in the spring of 1799; Andrew Canfield and Silas Beardslee in the fall of the same year; Albert Camp and Joseph Ross in the spring of 1800. Mr. Brister's family consisted of six children, of whom Ira was one; Mr. Canfield's, the same number, of whom Amos, then seventeen, is now living, in his eighty-eighth year; Mr. Beardslee's, eight children; Mr. Ross's, the same; and Mr. Camp's, five children, of whom four were sons. Thus, at least forty-five persons, in the opening of the century, were located on the north branch of the Wyalusing; the section known to them as Locke, one of the townships laid out by surveyors under the Connecticut claimants. The readers of these pages need not be told, that the high expectations of these settlers were soon doomed to disappointment.

On a previous page it has been mentioned that Andrew Canfield left Connecticut in 1797, locating not far below the forks of the Wyalusing; when he came to the North Branch, he settled just above Riel Brister, on what has since been known as the Stedwell farm. Joshua Grant afterwards settled between them. When the Canfields came here, in 1799, for some days they had only the milk of one cow as the sole sustenance of the family. The men would go in the woods to chop,

become faint, and eat the inside of bark, and when their work was finished, have milk alone for supper.

Amos, son of Andrew Canfield, afterwards cleared a farm just above Middletown Center. Benjamin Abbott and Silas Beardslee located still further north, but Mr. A. afterwards moved into Rush. There were no mills nearer than the river. Mr. Amos Canfield says:—

“The first summer we lived on the North Branch, we burned a hole in a maple stump for a mortar, in which we pounded our corn, using a spring-pole. It made quite a mill for the whole neighborhood.”

In 1799, a family moved upon the head-waters of Wyalusing Creek, one of the survivors of which states, that one winter they kept their cattle alive by cutting down trees for them to browse upon the buds, sprouts, and tender limbs; yet, when spring came, some had to be drawn on sleds to the pasture fields. He also states that the people, to eke out their meal, in some cases mixed the inner, pulp-like part of hemlock bark with it.

Of the settlers whose labor changed this wilderness into a fruitful field, only meager items are recorded, but “their works do follow them.”

Riel Brister died prior to 1815. Hon. Charles Miner mentioned him more than forty years afterwards, as “the renowned wolf slayer.”

Benjamin Abbott was at Wyoming at the time of the massacre, and in old Wyalusing township, outside the county, in 1796; as were also a large number of those who located afterwards in Rush and Middletown. In his old age he was fond of relating incidents connected with Wyoming. He removed to Pike, Bradford County, in 1856, where he died in 1858, at the age of ninety-three years.

Andrew Canfield was a prominent Methodist, and his house was ever open for the itinerant preacher.

In 1814, Middletown was in the Wyalusing circuit, then about twenty by forty miles in extent.

Andrew C. died June, 1843, aged eighty-five years. Jeremiah, a brother of Andrew, was also an early settler.

Silas Beardslee's death occurred in 1820—his neck being broken by a fall from a load of hay. His widow removed to Apolacon, where his descendants now reside. His grandson, E. B. Beardslee, is now (1870) a member of the State Legislature.

Albert Camp was one of a numerous family, children of Job, a pioneer, prior to 1793, on the Wyalusing, five miles from its mouth; a place still occupied by his descendants, and called Camptown. He died at a very advanced age, in 1822. His daughter Polly was the wife of Joseph Ross. His sons were Isaac (now in Bradford County), Levi, Jonathan (now in Illi-

nois), and Nelson, late on the old place just below Middletown Center.

Joseph Ross was one of three brothers, who settled on the Wyalusing. Their father, Perrin, fell in the Wyoming massacre, having run down three horses to reach home the day previous; their mother fled over the mountains to Connecticut. Joseph was an active man in Middletown; his house was its political center. He was often engaged in surveying and locating roads, and from his comparative abundance of means, was called upon to be the succorer of others. At one time when the children of neighbors were crying for food, Mrs. R. had but a crust to give them. The spring-pestle was all the mill privilege they had for years, except when Mr. R. took corn on his back seventeen miles, to Black's mills below Camptown. When he first came up the North Branch, he crossed it eighteen times. Mrs. R. would often go with her child two or three miles into the woods after the cows. They had ten children, six of whom are now living. Of the three sons, Otis occupies the homestead; Norman is in Michigan, and Orin J. is in Bradford County. Mr. R. died May 10, 1855, aged eighty-one years. Mrs. R. April 27, 1864, in her eighty-eighth year. The present large house was erected over fifty years ago.

Daniel Ross, brother of Joseph, was located near the forks of Wyalusing. His sons were John, William, Daniel, and Hiram. Jesse, the youngest son of Perrin Ross, had two sons residents of this county, Perrin and Isaac H. The sons of Otis Ross are Joseph and Perrin S. His daughter Mary, is the postmistress at Middletown Center.

In 1800, Darius Coleman settled on the North Branch, just below Riel Brister. His name, as well as those of all persons in the vicinity, is to be found on the assessment roll of "Rindaw," or Rush, for 1801. He was a hunter, and in one year killed forty deer, besides bears, panthers, etc. He had nine daughters and three sons, Amos, Alonzo, and Darius. Mrs. C. survived her husband many years, dying but recently (late in 1870), on the old farm to which he came seventy years ago, and which is now occupied by his son Alonzo. The old house was across the road and a little north of his present residence. Mr. C. was a man of peace, diligent in business, and active in the support of the schools of the neighborhood. His farm was on the line between Middletown and Rush. In the same year (1801), Josiah Grant was taxed for a saw-mill.

The outlet of Wyalusing Lake, after passing through Jackson Valley, runs for a mile or two in Bradford County, re-enters Middletown at Prattville, and falls into the North Branch two miles above the fort.

At Prattville, on the road passing from the creek into Brad-

ford County, and precisely on the line is the Methodist church edifice, half of which is in Middletown, and this half is all the house of worship there is in the township. The village takes its name from Isaac Pratt, who came in 1801, to the farm now occupied by Jeremiah Canfield, Jr. He was in old Wyalusing as early as 1795. Russel Pratt was his son.

Henry Ellsworth came in prior to 1807, and settled on the creek near the north line of the township. His son Joseph began on what is called the McGrath place, afterwards occupied by N. Billings.

Jonathan Ellsworth was a great hunter. One day when in the woods he found a long hollow tree on the ground, which, from the appearance of one end, he judged to be the home of some wild animal. He prepared to make a discovery, by a Putnam-like feat, and entered the hollow with his knife before him, drawing after him his loaded gun, muzzle hindmost, to serve in case he should be attacked in the rear. He emerged unharmed, however, with three young panthers, which he bore home without being disturbed.

Between 1807 and 1811, Darius Bixby, Seymour Galutia, and John Holeman were added to the number of settlers of the township.

"Bixby Pond," a very pretty sheet of water, takes its name from the second location of Darius Bixby. The town line passes through it, but he was on the Middletown side. His son Asa afterwards resided on the place. Another son, Richard, settled within the limits of Rush, but has since removed. Mr. B.'s remains rest in Birchardville Cemetery.

Samuel Wilson, a native of Massachusetts, and a soldier of 1812, came from St. Lawrence County, New York, in 1813, with his wife and seven children. Three children were added to the family here. He had six sons, the oldest two being now dead. The four living, in their best days, weighed not less than seven hundred and eighty pounds altogether; all, like their father, light in flesh and heavy in bone and muscle. As a pioneer, he acted well his part, having chopped and cleared more than two hundred acres of heavily timbered land in this county, and had chopped three hundred acres before he came here. He was a man of powerful frame and iron will, and generally succeeded in everything he undertook. He was as skilful with the rifle as powerful with the ax. He was for fifty-one years a taxable citizen of Middletown, and died on the farm on which he first settled, in 1864, in the eighty-fifth year of his age. All his sons and daughters were strong and healthy, the youngest being thirty-seven before death made an inroad among their number. Of grandchildren he had seventy-five born during his lifetime, of whom fifty still live (January, 1872).

Eleven of his grandsons, together with one son-in-law, and four other young men married to his granddaughters, buckled on the implements of war and sped to their country's rescue, during the late rebellion. Six, alas, returned no more! Their remains are buried under a Southern sky.

The first grist-mill within the township as it is, was put up by Stulph (?) Shoemaker, on one of the tributaries of the N. Br. of the Wyalusing, where now is a chair factory, a mile west of the Brister farm. Linas, son of Riel Brister, had a grist-mill on the North Branch, in 1815.

Joseph Ross built the first saw-mill at what is now called Middletown Center, about 1809. A few years later he built a grist-mill on the other end of the same dam. This he sold in 1843, to Otis Frost; who built a new one on the site of the old saw mill, which had long before "gone down." Charles Tripp is the present owner of the property.

In 1816, the Canfields had a saw-mill on the North Branch.

Nathaniel Billings came in and bought a part of the Ross farm; afterwards he bought of J. Ellsworth the one adjoining. He and Silas Beardslee had framed houses.

Andrew Canfield was then the largest resident tax-payer.

Thomas Mitchell, Brown and Ives, Samuel Meredith, Samuel Wilcox, and R. H. Rose, were owners of unseated lands, but were non-residents.

Beginning at the north line of Middletown, the settlers on the North Branch were in the following order:—

Samuel Wilson, Henry Ellsworth, Jeremiah Canfield, Silas Beardslee, Amos Canfield, Joseph Ross, Albert Camp, Joseph Ellsworth, Andrew Canfield, Riel Brister, and Darius Coleman.

Samuel Spafford was in the vicinity of what has since been known as Spafford Creek. Twenty years later, he was justice of the peace for Middletown, Rush, and Auburn.

Samuel Wilson was on the North Branch where it crosses the line of the Apolacon.

In 1817, Samuel and Abner Taggart were in the section since called Jackson Valley. Samuel, in 1847–8, served the county in the State Legislature. He had five children, of whom two (?), with a son-in-law, occupy the old homestead.

Charles S. Campbell came also in 1817.

His son Charles, afterwards the first postmaster at Jackson Valley, removed to Friendsville, thence to Wisconsin, and is now in Elmira, N. Y.

Charles S. died in 1852, at the house of his son, in Friendsville.

In 1818, Peter Saunderson, who, three years previous, had come from New Hampshire to Choconut, settled near those just mentioned, on the place now occupied by his son James. Of

his other sons, Geo. T. is dead, and Peter has removed to the West.

Isaac Benjamin and Selah Dart came to the township about 1818. Isaac Deuel was then on the Blair place, but five years later removed to Rush.(?)

In 1819, the township included at least a third of what is now the borough of Friendsville; and to this section, within the next year or two, were added a number of new-comers. Among these were Thomas Christian, William Salter, Samuel Savage, John Buxton, and Henry M. Pierce. The majority of them belonged to the Society of Friends. A son of the last named, Henry M. Pierce, LL.D., held for many years the Presidency of Rutgers College, N. Y. Another son is reported, in Brace's California (1869), as returning the largest income in that State.

Dr. Levi Roberts located on the turnpike, about 1822. He died about three years later, and was buried in Friends' burying-ground.

In 1823, Eliab and John Buxton, Jr., were in Jackson Valley. They came from New Hampshire.

Caleb C. True settled in the same vicinity, near the county line, but afterwards removed to Bradford County. His sons are Lauren, now in Iowa; William W., in Michigan; and Hiram R., who resides on the North Branch, about a mile below Middletown Center. A rare relic—a Bible bearing date 1613—is in Mr. H. R. True's possession.

About 1829, two brothers, Jacob and Michael Andree, Dutchmen, who had previously come from Pittsburg to Franklin, where they were engaged with one Michael Dowell in boring the salt well, were employed by Dr. Rose and S. Milligan, Esq., on the salt well at Middletown Center. [See Mineral Resources.] Michael married and settled in the township, residing about two miles west of the Center until his death.

The same year Caleb Carmalt was taxed for 1000 acres in Middletown. Possibly these were not within the present limits of the township; but he afterwards purchased lands here, including the Pierce farm near Friendsville, where his eldest daughter, Mrs. John C. Morris and her family resided ten years, previous to their removal to Scranton.

While here, in 1862, Mr. Morris recruited from this and neighboring townships, nearly the whole of his company of volunteers for the national army, of which he was captain. He has contributed largely to advance the agricultural interests of this section, and for the last two years has been President of the State Agricultural Society.

THE WELSH SETTLEMENT.

June, 1825, marks the arrival of David Thomas, the first Welshman and family in Middletown, as also the first in the county. He was smitten down by a sunstroke six weeks after he arrived, and before he had completed his house. His was the third family in "the Welsh settlement," which has always been mostly over the line in Bradford County; so the widow and her six children had sympathy and care from those of their own tongue. David Thomas, Jr., now on the old place, was then but seventeen; and his brother, the present Rev. Thomas Thomas, was but twelve years of age.

Joseph (or David) Jenkins, the first Welshman of the settlement, came May, 1824, to the Bradford side; but, several years later, he came into Middletown, and remained some years; then returned to Leraysville, where he died.

Edward Jones, Sen., the second person in the order of settlement, came in the fall of 1824, and located just over the line. He had a brother, Thomas Jones, 1st. Thomas Jones, 2d, is a son of Edward, and is on the Susquehanna County side, as is also his brother James.

Messrs. Jenkins and Jones were induced to look at land in this vicinity, by a Welshman in Philadelphia (Simmons), who was a friend of Thomas Mitchell, the landholder. The tract was then a wilderness, lying principally upon the hills. David Thomas landed at New York, went to Philadelphia, where he also fell in with Simmons, who recommended this locality. It is but three miles from Leraysville. At that time, Esquire Seymour had a small store at the latter point, and accommodated the incomers by selling them axes, and a few common articles of daily use. To examine a more extended assortment, though sufficiently limited, the daughter of the pioneer would walk seven miles by a path through the woods to Friendsville, after the morning's work; would do her shopping and visit, then walk back, and finish the evening's work.

Samuel Davis joined the settlement in 1831, and is now living with his son, John S., on a high hill this side of the county line. This year, the first Welsh church and school-house were erected on the opposite side of the line, on the hill facing the creek. Daniel D. Jones was the founder of the church, and its pastor nineteen years. He died in 1849, the year after the present edifice was built.

Rev. Thomas Thomas, pastor of the Rushville and Stevensville churches, formerly preached in the Welsh settlement. His brother, Griffith, after making an improvement on the farm now occupied by J. D. Thomas, removed into Bradford County.

The Welsh families were mostly from Cardiganshire and Glamorganshire—the latter in the southern part, and the former about the center of Wales. They had little sympathy with monarchical institutions, and one motive which induced them to leave the mother country, was to rid themselves of the obnoxious tax for the support of the established church of England. This amounted to one-tenth of their income; and, in addition, as all are Presbyterian or Congregational in sentiment, they had to support their own churches. There was never a Roman Catholic among them. A majority of all the community are members of the Protestant church. A oneness of interest and feeling pervades the entire settlement. In all, it contains from forty-five to fifty families; only fifteen of which are in Susquehanna County; these are Evan Evans, and David Jones (son of John), in Apolacon; Thomas Williams, Thomas Owens, John D., and David Thomas, and Samuel Davis, with his son John S., on farms adjoining Bradford County; next east of these are Thomas J. Jones, Samuel F. Williams, James Jones (son of Edwin), Thomas Thomas, Henry, and David E. Davis, brothers and sons of Evan Davis (brother of Samuel), who died on the passage from Wales; and near the north branch of Wyalusing, are Thomas Jones, 2d, Jenkin Jones (with his son John), John M. Davis (son of David, now dead), and Roger Philips.

They are principally farmers, though a few are mechanics, and all are readers. A large number are school-teachers—several being college graduates. First among the latter is Evan W. Evans, at present Professor of Mathematics in Cornell University. He is a son of Wm. Evans, whose residence is across the line of Bradford County; while his daughter, the wife of Rev. Thomas Thomas, is near him on this side.

We are told, that when Professor Evans was a lad, his thirst for knowledge was so great that his father determined to send him to Yale College. Whilst there, he was said to be the most retiring, diffident, and industrious young man in the college.

He was chief of the editors of the 'Yale Literary Magazine,' and graduated with special distinction in literature. His knowledge of geology was such, that in a sojourn in Western Virginia a few years ago, he was induced to enter into some speculations in petroleum, and acquired a large fortune.

He is the highest authority among the scholars of our country on the Celtic language and literature; and has contributed articles to the journal of the American Philological Society on this subject. He was Professor of Mathematics in Marietta College, Ohio, but when the Faculty of Cornell University was organized, he was offered the distinguished position he now fills.

A characteristic of Welsh names is that the omission of the final *s* changes a surname into a given name; thus, Evan Evans, Jenkin Jenkins, Griffith Griffiths, etc., are common instances of alliteration among them.

Politically, the Welsh are Republican.

On this side of the church and creek, which here crosses the county line, the settlement has recently been accommodated by the establishment of Neath Post-office, Bradford County.

Many are the evidences of thrift and prosperity. Wheat on the hills; good houses on well-cleared farms, having still enough forest to make the landscape picturesque; the little church and the white monuments gleaming near it; the bridge over the winding creek below—all combine to make the locality inviting.

The musical taste of the people, as well as the character and profession of the one it commemorates (a musician), has found expression in an inscription upon one of the monuments. Upon the marble lines of the *G* clef are engraved the notes of a tune; to which, just below, are set the words:—

“How blest the righteous when he dies!”

The first interment in the burying-ground was that of a child of David Thomas; its grandfather, John Howell, was the first adult buried here in 1834. The grave of one union soldier is found even in this small inclosure—that of Theron H. Jones, who died in the service. Alas, that the graves of others of Middletown, whose lives were thus sacrificed, should be remote and unknown.

THE IRISH SETTLEMENT.

It was probably through the influence of Edward White, an Irish gentleman, who acted as agent for Dr. Rose, that the lands of the latter attracted the notice of Irishmen, as early as 1829. They were, for the most part, laborers drawn to this country by the demands of the public works; from which it was not difficult to withdraw them when they perceived their opportunity to become landowners—a privilege which the regulations of their own country made impossible.

James Ferris and Philip Finnely were the first Irish settlers in Middletown. The following year, 1830, Patrick Magee (since gone West), Walter O'Flanlin, and John Murphy came. The latter settled on a farm partly cleared by an American. Thomas Colford and Bernard Keenan were here about the same time.

Dennis McMahan, — Dougherty, William Fennel, Edward Grimes, Michael Cunningham, Jos. Tierney, Michael Whalen

(now in Friendsville), James Melhuish, and Michael Madden were among those who were here before 1840; the last named settled where Esq. Keeler is now. Edward Grimes' last location is near the Bradford County line, where he has cleared and cultivated a fine farm. He cleared two farms previously.

Mr. Cunningham and Joseph Tierney bought adjoining farms (formerly Holeman's), on the Wolf road, of — Spafford (American). Both occupy a ridge commanding a fine prospect. Mr. C. is still living, over eighty years old. A Mr. Carroll cleared a large farm, and then left for the West.

The Wolf road, which is on the ridge of land between the present west line of Forest Lake and the North Branch, was so named from the fact, that after it had been marked out, at an early day, and before it was available for teams, it was a path frequented by packs of wolves.

In 1840, there was a very large accession to the Irish settlement. James Cooney cleared a large farm, and still remains upon it. Michael Connaughton (now dead) was on the farm at present occupied by his son John.

Hugh McDonald has cleared good farms; each of the following has cleared one, at least; Daniel Farrell (on a cross-road), and John Fitzgerald on Wolf road; Dennis Lane and — Holland on the road connecting the Middle Branch with the former, where they have good farms and buildings. Indeed, many of the farms cleared by the settlers, both before and after 1840, have neat white houses, with flower gardens in front and barns in the rear—a striking contrast to their primitive rude cabins, from the doors of which pigs and poultry were not excluded; for once the question of obtaining food and drink was so difficult of solution as to leave no thought or time for the cultivation of taste in their surroundings.

The roads, in general, are better than those of Silver Lake township, and aid materially in giving one a pleasant impression of adjoining farms. Charles Heary cleared, on the Wolf road, what is called "the best farm in the township." It was recently sold to Patrick Hickey.

William Monnihan (now dead) was located on the North Branch. Edward Reilly, James Quigley, and others came about the same time as those just mentioned.

We are indebted to our foreign population for the rescue from the wilderness of a large portion of the lands of Middletown. Even where the immigration was subsequent to 1840, many of the hardships of pioneer life had to be endured; though mills, roads, and a ready market had been supplied by the early American settlers. The latter were principally located in the vicinity of the North Branch of the Wyalusing.

[It will be understood that those sections not now a part of Middletown, are excluded from this statement.]

Of the Irish families which have settled in the township for the last thirty years, and added to its thrift and controlled its interests, a few more are mentioned as data for a proper estimate of this section by those who, from birth and denominational prejudice, have not been able to judge fairly of its worth.

All have paid for their farms. The people are generally temperate, as there is not a licensed hotel in the township.

James Curley (now dead) had five sons, whose five farms adjoin along the road leading from the Wolf road to the North Branch. This region was a dense forest when he came in 1841. Lawrence, one of his sons, whose education had received attention in Ireland, kept the first school, near the present residence of Edward Gillan.

John Conboy came to the farm begun by J. Quigley; John Flynn to that begun by Mr. Dougherty, and now occupied by his son James; John Horrigan and Patrick Smith, to the North Branch; Patrick McDonough settled opposite Hugh McDonald; and Thomas Luby began on the farm now occupied by the widow of Farrell Millmore. F. M. was one of several who came from Sligo and Roscommon Counties, Ireland, in 1833, to assist in the construction of the Chenango canal, and afterwards, of the North Branch canal (in Luzerne County); and who, when the work was suspended, were scattered throughout the country. Dr. Rose offered them inducements to settle here, boarding them while they examined his land. In more than one instance he furnished them a cow, upon their settlement. He also supplied them with teams, sheep, beef, and clothing; and, according to their own statement, "never *pushed* any man for pay."

Unlike many of the early English settlers on his lands, the Irish appeared to have been abundantly satisfied. The reason is doubtless due, in part, to a difference of national temperament; but, in a greater measure, to an absence of the high expectations which the English entertained, and to the contrast in their transatlantic life.

Politically, with few exceptions, the Irish are democratic, in the party sense of that term; and denominationally, Roman Catholic. Their chapel, just over the line in Rush, accommodates both townships. Wm. Golden's farm is near it.

Thomas Moran, — Degnan, — Brennan, — Leary, Mark and Michael Keogh, — McCormick, and Edw. Gillan, were all here before 1850. A son of the last named was educated at St. Joseph's College, Choconut, and is a teacher of some note in the county. There is some ambition among the

people to give their children educational advantages, still their schools have had but few good teachers.

Francis Keenan is the present justice of the peace in Middletown.

CHAPTER XXIII.

JESSUP.

THIS township, named in honor of Judge Jessup, was erected from parts of Bridgewater and Rush, with a small portion of Middletown, in April, 1846. It is nearly four and a half miles square. A slight variation in the line between Jessup and Bridgewater has since been made to accommodate families in the northeast corner of the former, and has resulted in the erection of the Chapman Independent School District, comprising portions of three townships. An addition to Jessup on the west has been made by taking about eighty rods from Rush, from the Wyalusing road to the north line of the township.

Jessup is traversed by the Wyalusing Creek, its course being nearly due west two miles, from the east line of the township, then southwest about two miles, whence it runs west with little variation beyond the line of Rush.

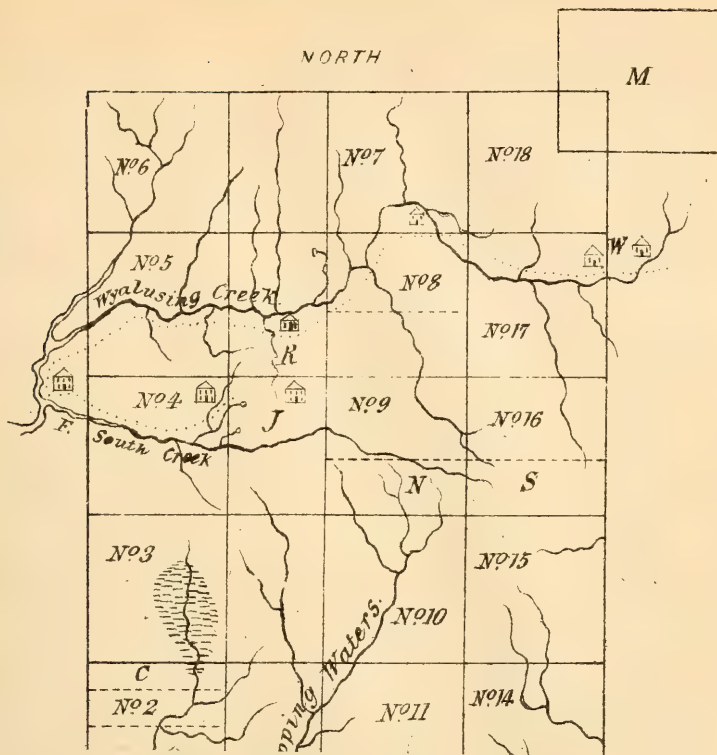
The Wyalusing in Jessup has three or four tributaries on the north; on the south, one, South Creek, the source of which is near Milton Hunter's residence in Bridgewater. The outlet of Forest Lake has its junction with the main stream at Fairdale; Birchard Creek, at "Bolles' Flat;" and the mouth of a third Creek running between Porter Ridge and Stuart Street (set off to Jessup in January, 1854), is nearly at the west line of the township.

Fire Hill—so named because of a succession of destructive fires along its summit—is the long, high ridge south of the Wyalusing and west of the ridge bordering South Creek, on the southwest. It nearly covers the Roberts District.

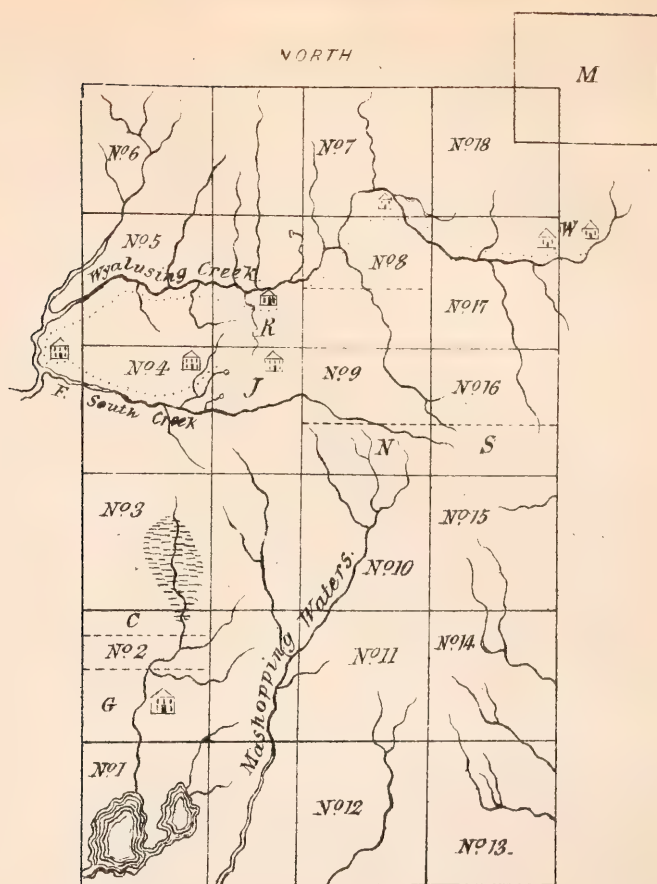
Dutch Hill—settled by persons of Dutch descent, but born in New York—comprises the section north of the Wyalusing and east of Forest Lake Creek. Between these hills is another, which, with equal propriety, might be called "Jersey" Hill.

Jessup, at the time of its first settlement, was in the remaining portion of old Tioga, Luzerne County; but, soon after, was included in Rush, as originally bounded. To the settlers from Connecticut it was known as MANOR in the eastern, and USHER

CONNECTICUT SURVEY.



CONNECTICUT SURVEY.



DRAWN BY MISS H.D.W.

MANOR.

Delaware First Purchase

- No. 1. ELK LAKE.
- 2. EZEKIEL MOWRY.
- G. GEORGE MOWRY
- C. CHARLES MOWRY.
- No. 4. EZEKIEL MAINE.
- F. MEACHAM MAINE.
- J. JEREMIAH MEACHAM.
- N. NEHEMIAH MAINE.
- S. SAMUEL MAINE.
- W. STEPHEN WILSON.
- M. SUBSEQUENT LOCATION OF MONTROSE.
- R. JOHN REYNOLDS.
- No. 7. OZEM COOK.
- 13. ASAH EL AVERY
- 17. SAMUEL COGGSWELL.

in the western part, of the "Delaware First Purchase," as distinguished from the lands claimed by Connecticut along the Susquehanna. The first settlers of Jessup located with their families on and near Bolles' Flat, March 10th, 1799. The men may have been on the ground during the previous summer. They were Ebenezer Whipple, his step-son Ezra Lathrop, and Abner Griffis. They came from Otsego County, N. Y. In the same company there were Wm. Lathrop, brother of Ezra, and Nathan Tupper, both of whom located below the present limits of Jessup.

Four brothers, Samuel, Nehemiah, Ezekiel, and Meacham Maine came from the East about the same time with those just mentioned. Samuel Maine is mentioned in Mr. Miner's list of early Wyalusing settlers, as here, with a family of seven, in 1798; but from other sources of information it seems evident they did not precede Mr. Whipple. Samuel and Meacham Maine were in Usher, and the other brothers in Manor. Ezekiel Maine, Jr., was born on "the Shay farm" where his father began his clearing, and where David Turrell afterwards lived. It was once known as Maine Hill. His farm was east of that of his brother Samuel, who was located on the flat at the junction of South Creek with the Wyalusing. Two or three old apple trees now designate the spot. He sold the farm (or whatever title he may have had to it—one derived from Connecticut) to Samuel Lewis, his brother-in-law, who came a year later; and he then moved to what is now called the Hunter farm—once Butterfield's.¹ Meacham Maine was on the water-shed between the two principal creeks emptying into the Wyalusing from the south. He and his brother Samuel removed to Indiana prior to 1813. Nehemiah Maine's location was first in what is now Bridgewater, but very soon after, where Urbane Smith lives in Dimock.

Other settlers of 1799 were Holden Sweet, Zebdial Lathrop, and Eben Ingram. Jeremiah Meacham, John Reynolds, and Daniel Foster were here to select their lands, and the first two rolled up cabins. The same year, Holden Sweet began the first grist-mill (now Depue's) in a portion of which he and his family lived. In less than two years—after spending all his property in trying in vain to bring the water in troughs for a quarter of a mile—he became discouraged; changed situations with Abner Griffis, and cultivated his improvements, while Mr. G., in a few

¹ The location given to Samuel Maine on the map of Manor is the place he sold to Joseph Butterfield, about 1812. There is a discrepancy in the statement respecting his location, as, in 1801, the court record places his name where Meacham M.'s appears on the map. Another authority confirms the record, stating that the latter was on "the water-shed" between two creeks running north into the Wyalusing.

months, succeeded in starting the mill. For more than a year it was without a bolt; and he sold a cow to procure one. Previous to this the settlers found the nearest mills at the mouth of the Wyalusing, and at Frenchtown, 20 miles distant.

Zebdial Lathrop was located north of E. Whipple, on the place now occupied by H. Whitney; he died more than thirty years ago. Zebdial, Jr., removed to Rush, afterwards to Iowa, where he died. Ruby, sister of the latter, and now Mrs. Roswell Morse, resides in Rush; another sister, Mrs. John Hancock, is dead.

Jeremiah Meacham selected the farm adjoining Ezekiel Maine's on the east. He then returned to Connecticut for his family, and arrived here—nine in all—on the 1st of March, 1800. They came *via* Great Bend to H. Tiffany's in "Nine Partners," and from thence to Stephen Wilson's, and found but one house between—that of Jos. Chapman in what is now Brooklyn. Upon reaching Ezekiel Maine's, and finding no path beyond, the family halted until a road was cut. There was not a nail in Mr. Meacham's house, the shingles being held on with poles.

The east line of Jessup passes through the house occupied by his son Sheldon, until his recent decease, on the farm cleared by Mr. M., and where he died. A part of the estate passed to the late Jeremiah Meacham, Jr., who resided on it until a few years since. In early life he united with the Baptist church, in which he was deacon for many years. As an upright, honest, Christian man, his name and character are without blemish. He died in Montrose, February 24, 1871, aged seventy-eight years. [The compiler received from him the original map of the survey of "Manor," and several items of much interest.]

John Reynolds and Daniel Foster came, the second time, from Long Island, in company with Bartlet Hinds, of Bridge-water, in May, 1800. They lived in the cabin that Mr. Reynolds had built the previous year; and to this, in the next fall, Mr. Foster and his family came. His son Walter was then in his eighth year. He says:—

"The cabin had no floor, except that mother had a short board to keep her feet warm. When Mr. Reynolds brought his family in the spring of 1801, father moved into his own house across the creek, Mr. Reynolds being on the left bank, on a knoll still marked by the remains of the old chimney and foundation of the house. He had the first fulling-mill in Jessup. Its site is marked by the stone chimney left standing when the building was burned. For some years, his family occupied a part of it. My father built, in 1812, a framed house, also on the right bank, but a few rods further west. He paid for his land twice,—first to his friend Mr. Reynolds, who held a Connecticut title only, and afterwards to the Wallace estate, or rather to Peter Graham, to whom the obligation was transferred. After giving to

the latter one hundred and thirty acres and the saw-mill, he had two hundred and fifty acres left."

Mr. Foster died in 1829, and the place, until within a few years, was occupied by Walter Foster, since a resident of Montrose, but who deceased in September, 1872, at the residence of his son, near Scranton. The death of Mrs. Walter F. occurred at the same place the preceding February.

Ichabod Halsey came with Messrs. Reynolds and Foster, in 1800, and began on the farm now occupied by the Roy brothers.

Samuel Lewis, with five in his family, and James Carroll, also with five, were included in Mr. Miner's list of fifty persons, old and young, who were, in 1800, on the Wyalusing between Fairdale and the present east line of Rush.

Charles Miner was on the Wyalusing in 1799 and 1800, and took up two lots, one on the farm now occupied by Buckingham Stuart, where he cleared four acres and sowed it with wheat. This he harvested in the fall, and while it was in the stack, it was destroyed by bears. The place is still known as Miner Hill. The other lot was located where Benajah Chatfield afterwards lived, and is now occupied by Lyman Picket. Here Mr. M. built a bark cabin, and, with the assistance of a man who came with him, commenced chopping; but, being unaccustomed to the business, he made slow progress. He soon cut his foot, and was taken to Mr. Whipple's, where he was cared for for several weeks. "When he got well, his taste for farming subsided," says a son of Mr. Whipple, "and he began to think he had mistook his calling." Mr. Miner's own account of his experiences about that time, was given in a letter read at the Pioneer Festival, Montrose, June 2, 1858, in which, after mentioning that he and a Mr. Chase went from Mr. Parke's to the Forks of the Wyalusing, he says:—

"Mr. Bronson piloted us to lot 39 in Usher. The vocabulary of us intruding Yankees spoke of Usher, Ruby, Locke, Manor, Dandolo, and Bidwell, as our recognized localities. A hill, descending gently to the south for half a mile; a spring gushing from its side, running through groves of sugar maple, beech, cherry, whitewood, and here and there a monster of a hemlock, through swales now green with springing grass; we made a bark cabin, open in front to a huge log against which our fire was kindled; a bed of hemlock-boughs; each a blanket; a six-quart camp-kettle to boil our chocolate; plates and dishes made from the soft whitewood or maple. Here we took up our quarters for the summer (1799). Chopped awkwardly, slept soundly, except being awaked too early from our town habits by the stamping deer, for we had taken possession of a favorite runway. This, if my memory is correct, was about two¹ miles west from where Montrose was afterwards located. That summer and the next, population poured in rapidly under

¹ In his history of Wyoming, he gives it *three* miles west, which is nearer correct. He probably supposed Montrose located on the old road to Great Bend, which ran farther west than the present one.

the auspices of Col. Ezekiel Hyde, our Yankee leader. His headquarters were at Rindaw.

"From Wilson's, down the east branch of the Wyalusing to the Forks, were Maine, Lathrop, Whipple, Sweet, Griffis, Tupper, Picket (the famous 'painter' killer), and Beaumont; on the middle branch, at the large salt spring, the Birchards, I think the first and only inhabitants of Ruby; on the north branch, in Locke, the Canfields and Brister, the renowned wolf-slayer. The Parkes were the only settlers in Bidwell, as Wilson was in the Manor. [The map shows his location just outside of Manor.]

"Was it a time of suffering? No! no! of pleasurable excitement [Mr. M. was then but nineteen years of age], of hope, health, and mutual kindness. Novelty gilded the scene. There was just enough of danger, toil, and privation to give life a relish.

"My Sunday home was at Mr. Whipple's, whose residence was on the Wyalusing, a mile south of us. He was a capital hunter. An anecdote will give you his character. Just at dusk, he returned from the woods in high spirits. 'I have him—a large bear—we will go out in the morning and fetch him in!' Behold! as he had shot in the twilight, he had killed Nathan Tupper's only cow. Mr. Whipple, the most fore-handed settler, had three. 'Neighbor Tupper,' said he, 'I am sorry—it was an accident. Now choose of mine which you please.' 'I won't take your best; let me have old Brindle; she is worth more than mine,' said Mr. Tupper; and the matter was settled by that higher law, 'Do as you would be done by.' Not an instance of dishonesty, or even of unkindness, do I remember. Grain was scarce, mills distant; a maple stump was burned hollow for a mortar, early corn pounded; the good Mrs. Whipple stewed pumpkins, and of the mixture made capital bread.

"The rifle of Mr. Whipple furnished abundance of venison. Deer were plenty—a few elk remained—on the river hills that encircled us, there were the pilot and rattlesnake, where annual fires prevailed. In the deep shade of the dense forest they had not yet penetrated."

J. W. Chapman, Esq., relates the following:—

"Mr. Whipple happened along one day with his rifle, where my father and Mr. Jeremiah Gere were chopping trees, and stopped to talk a few minutes of his exploits in shooting partridges. 'What!' inquired one of them, 'you don't shoot them with a rifle-ball, do you?' 'Of course,' replied he. 'I always take their heads off with a ball, rather than mangle their bodies with shot,' continued he. They looked at each other with a somewhat incredulous glance, as if suspecting it to be rather a tough yarn; when one of them happened to espy a couple of those birds a few rods off, hopping up at each other, in play or fight. 'There's a chance for you, Mr. Whipple,' said he; 'if you can shoot off a pheasant's head with a ball, let's see it.' The old man deliberately drew up his rifle, and quietly said, 'Wait till they get in range;' and the next moment pop went the rifle, and sure enough both their heads were taken off by the ball! Their incredulity vanished, while the old hunter walked off with his game in triumph."

In these early times he killed, besides other game, as many as one hundred deer in a year.

Cyrus Whipple, a son of Ebenezer, now living in Iowa, writes:—

"I was five years old when my father emigrated from Otsego County, New York, to the banks of the Wyalusing. Soon after there came a freshet, the creek overflowed its banks, and a portion of its current swept through our cabin, running near our fireplace a foot deep or more. I remember my mother's washing and dipping up the water by the side of her kettle. This was our introduction to pioneer life."

He also states, that Mr. Miner after he went to Wilkes-Barre, and after his marriage, came several times to see his father.

"On one of these visits Mr. Miner said, 'I tell my wife, sometimes, I never enjoyed life so well as I did when I lived away up in the woods with Uncle Whipple; and she'll box my ears for it.' On another occasion my father related to him a wolf story, which Mr. Miner published fifteen or twenty years after my father's decease, adding: 'The noble old hunter now sleeps in the bosom of that soil of which he was one of the pioneers, after having filled up and rounded off an amiable, useful, and blameless life.'"

Ebenezer Whipple occupied the centre of the Flat seven years. He sold his possession to Peter Stevens. He afterwards lived on the Carrier place, where he died in 1826, aged seventy-two.

There were then heroines as well as heroes. A sister of Cyrus Whipple's, then a young girl, saw a deer in the creek as she was passing by, and called at a house for a man to shoot it. As it happened, only the lady of the house was in; she took the gun and accompanied the girl within shooting distance, but then her courage failed. The girl herself now rose to the occasion. Seizing the gun, she fired, and instantly a famous buck lay splashing in the water.

One day in the absence of her husband, Mrs. Cyrus W. saw a ferocious wild-cat within a few rods of the house. It caught a goose and began to eat it. The thought, that it might at another time make a meal of one of her children, nerved her, though naturally a very timid woman, to sally forth with a rifle to shoot it. When she came near, it placed its paws upon a log, and gave a growl of defiance; then she brought the rifle to bear upon it, and the next moment it lay lifeless.

A road was petitioned for in 1801, "to run by Abner Griffis' grist-mill." Another, "to begin between the houses of Ezra Lathrop and Abner Griffis on the Wyalusing Creek road, to intersect the Nicholson road near the house of Joseph Chapman, Jr." (on the Hopbottom). Of this, John Robinson, S. Wilson, Jabez A. Birchard, and Myron Kasson were viewers. Another, to begin "between the houses of Ebenezer Whipple and Ezra Lathrop, and run north past Zebdial Lathrop's to Ellicott's road, near the 34th mile-tree." Another, petitioned for by Ichabod Halsey and others, "to cross the Wyalusing at Foster's saw-mill," etc.

David Doud was on the Wyalusing as early as 1801, and occupied the first clearing of Mr. Miner.

David Olmstead was in as early as 1802. He was born in Norwalk, Connecticut; was a soldier of the Revolution, in the northern campaign under Gen. Gates, also with Washington in his retreat from New York, and at Ticonderoga. One of the marked features of his character was a devoted attachment to the faith of the Protestant Episcopal church. He died in Jessup (then Bridgewater) November 29th, 1829.

Samuel Lewis was located near him. In an advertisement, in 1802, the latter gives his address as Usher, Headwaters of the Wyalusing, Luzerne County.

About half a mile above the location of Mr. Griffis' mill, Jacob Cooley built a still (distillery) in the year 1803. This undertaking failed in less than seven years. During this time he lost two children; one being drowned in the creek, the other scalded in the still.

He bought the mill of Griffis, about 1804, and built the first dam near the mill, of poles. He lived in the mill until 1811, when he rented the place to D. Lampson for two years, and left; when he returned, he built a house just above, on the same side of the road, opposite the present residence of E. Bolles.

From Cooley, the mill passed into the hands of Jesse Ross; from him, to his son Isaac H.; from him, to his brother Perrin; then to Asa and Adolphus Olmstead; next, to Mason Denison; and successively to Samuel Bertholf, Benjamin Depue, Timothy Depue, and to his son T. J. Depue, the present owner.

Abner Griffis had five sons: Solomon, Ezekiel, John, Elisha, and Robert. The last named went to his present location in 1814, and his father made his home with him the year following, but afterwards spent some time with Solomon in Otsego County, New York; then returned to Jessup, but finally died at Solomon's. Of the latter, Mr. Miner says: "He was the beau of the Wyalusing; he had a fine form, a ruddy cheek, bright eye, pleasant smile, manly expression, and—with the rifle—no superior."

If Mr. Miner's recollections of the pioneers of Jessup were all pleasant, their remembrance of him was equally so, and blended with pride in his after-course—the success he achieved—and the eminent service he was able to render to others. After he went to Wilkes-Barre, he was a teacher, then editor of the 'Luzerne Federalist.'

January, 1804, he married Miss Letitia Wright, of the same place.

In 1811 he, with Mr. Butler, established the 'Gleaner,' which became very popular. He was afterwards editor of the 'True American,' and of the 'Political and Commercial Register' of Philadelphia; and was twice a colleague of Buchanan in the State Legislature. His 'History of Wyoming' is completely exhaustive of the subject of Connecticut claims in this region, and is a standard work. He died when more than eighty years of age.

Levi Leonard, of Rush, is said to have been the first teacher in Jessup. Another authority gives Hosea Tiffany, of Harford, as the first.

In the spring of 1807, on the last day of March or the first

of April, there was four feet of snow on the ground. Mr. J. Meacham's wife and three daughters were then all confined to their beds with sickness. Dr. Fraser came from Great Bend to attend them. Their fire-wood being exhausted they were obliged to burn the fence, as the woods, though only eight or ten rods off, were inaccessible by the ox team. There were no drifts on account of the woods. For seven days it was cold, blowing weather; then the sun shone out; and in the little clearings the snow melted so rapidly, that with the large amount in the woods, it caused what is known as "the great flood."

Matthias Smith was a settler of 1808. His first wife, who died early, was a daughter of Ebenezer Whipple.

William C. Turrell's farm adjoined that of M. Smith on one side, and of Asa Olmstead on the other. He was here some time prior to 1810.

Col. Turrell's log-house was on that part of his farm now owned by Dr. N. P. Cornwell, on the same side of the road as the house of the latter, but west of it, on the flat. The place was known by the name of "Turrell's Flat."

In 1811 he was chosen Lt.-Col. of the 129th Regiment Pennsylvania militia, and was always an active and influential man in the township. About thirty years ago he went West, and died there some time afterwards. His brother David's farm adjoined that of Lyman Cook, which was next to William C. Turrell's on the east, near Fairdale. He also went West, and died in Michigan, in 1849, aged 66. Another brother, with the christian name of *Doctor*, made an improvement early, where William Robertson now lives, on Dutch Hill.

Robinson Bolles came from Groton, New London County, Connecticut, in the autumn of 1810, with his wife and nine children. They were twenty days on their journey—their wagon drawn by horses—two days being required from New Milford to the former location of Ebenezer Whipple. This had been sold to Peter Stevens, from whom Mr. Bolles purchased. The house stood in the center of the flat, but the latter afterwards built, on the north side of the road, the large house now owned by his grandson, Amos, a son of Simeon A. Bolles.

The sons of Robinson Bolles were Simeon A., Abel, Nelson, Elkanah, John, James, and Lyman. He also had five daughters. The most of his descendants settled within the county, and several in Jessup. He was highly respected for his strict integrity and love of justice. He died in 1842, aged seventy-six; his widow died ten years later, aged eighty-four.

In 1812 Zephaniah Cornell settled in that part of Bridgewater, now in the extreme northeast corner of Jessup, the farm of two hundred acres extending into Forest Lake.

In 1828 he sold the lower part of it to Marvin Hall, and

moved to the north part—now known as Cornell Hill; he afterwards bought out Mr. Hall, returned to the old homestead, leaving the Forest Lake part of the farm to his son, S. D. Cornell, who still occupies it. He died in Jessup December 8, 1871, aged nearly eighty-nine.

The first settler on Dutch Hill was a native of Conn., Lemuel Wallbridge, who was located, as early as 1812, near its top. That year, Christian Shelp, originally from New York, and of Dutch descent, came from Milford, and bought of Dr. Rose four hundred acres, just below Mr. Wallbridge. Henry Pruyne, father-in-law of Mr. Shelp, accompanied the latter from Great Bend, where he had settled two years previous. He was a soldier of the Revolution and a pensioner. His death occurred in 1843, and that of his widow, Rachel, the following year, at the age of eighty-one.

Charles Davis, a son-in-law of Mr. Shelp, came in about the same time with the latter, and settled near him. The sons of Christian Shelp were John, Nathaniel, Henry, Christian, Jr., and Stephen. The Shelps were the first of the Dutch families in Jessup. Henry S. now lives on the same place where his father lived forty years ago. [The Shays were the first family from New Jersey, and came twenty-five years later.]

Dutch Hill is noted for its famous yields of maple sugar.

The improvement of Doctor Turrell (before mentioned) was just below Mr. Shelp's. It was purchased by the Wallbridges (Lemuel and son Henry), and sold by them to John Robertson; the lot being the southern limit of the lands of Dr. R. H. Rose.

In the spring of 1812 Buckingham Stuart and Isaac Hart left the town of Hinesburg, Vermont, and arrived, the second day of April, at Col. Turrell's, now Fairdale, journeying on foot.

Mr. S. was a carpenter and joiner, and a millwright; and he worked at his trade a number of years, principally along the Wyalusing Creek.

In 1813 Nathaniel Stuart, father of the above, came in and took up three hundred acres just below Reynolds and Foster. His son, Nathan, who came the same year, returned to Vermont, and there lost his wife and four daughters by drowning in a freshet.

Mrs. Cyrus Whipple was a daughter of Nathaniel Stuart; she died in Dimock.

Abraham, son of Nathaniel S., died in Auburn; Isaac in Iowa; his daughter, Mrs. Luman Ferry, is dead; Mrs. Lawrence Meacham is in Auburn; two other daughters have left the county.

Buckingham Stuart married Cynthia H. Agard, a sister of Levi S. Agard, and, in 1819, removed to the farm where he now resides. This is the same farm where Mr. Miner began, in 1799,

which D. Doud bought in 1801, and which, in 1809, was occupied by Ichabod Terry; afterwards by Levi S. Agard, who died there, and was succeeded by Mr. Stuart. The latter is now (1872) eighty-two years old; has had three sons and one daughter.

Fire Hill was settled in 1812 by Hart Roberts, who afterwards went West and died. Henry Bertholf now owns his place.

Prior to 1813 there were other "new-comers" mentioned on the tax-list, among whom were: William A. Burnham, where James Carroll first settled, and now the Walker farm; John Blaisdell, from Massachusetts, on Porter Ridge; Israel Birchard, from Forest Lake, where he located in 1801; Jacob and John Bump, on the hill north of Dr. Cornwell's; James Cook, where Cyrus Sheets now lives. The sons of Israel Birchard were Pliny, Harry A., Jesse, Upson, Horace, Ralph, Lyman, and Lucius; and several of his descendants are now residents of the township. His life is said to have been an undeviating example of integrity. He died in Jessup December, 1818, aged fifty-three.

Jonas Fuller, a millwright, came from Vermont in 1813; the next year he looked for land, and bought one hundred acres, then in Bridgewater, but now on the line between Jessup and Dimock. He is now a resident of Auburn, and is nearly or quite eighty years old. He narrates many incidents of the early times. At one time when passing between Elk Lake and Cooley's Mill he met a wolf. Neither saw the other until they were a few feet apart, when Mr. F. raised his arms, and, giving a loud yell, so frightened it that it turned and ran away.

Champlin Harris, then boarding with Mr. Fuller, with a trap caught at least a dozen bears and wolves. He was noted for prowess in hunting. He settled in Jessup on the present location of Samuel Warner.

Lory Stone, a native of Litchfield County, Conn., came in 1814 to the farm where he died October 31, 1871, in his eighty-third year. Mrs. S. survived him only one week, and died at the age of seventy-nine. They were the parents of the present postmaster at Montrose. Another son resides upon the homestead.

The same year Benajah Chatfield came from Vermont, and occupied one of the clearings made by Charles Miner; Salmon Bradshaw came from Connecticut, and settled where Matthew McKeeby now is; and Christopher Sherman, where Jasper Rundall lives. Christopher Sherman's sons were Jonathan C., Jesse, and Abel. Their father had been a soldier of the Revolution. He died in 1835. Benajah Chatfield died the same year, aged seventy-three; his widow, December, 1843, aged seventy-eight.

Before the close of 1815 David Sherer, with his son-in-law, John Robertson, and their families, came from New Hampshire. The former bought of Henry Wallbridge the farm now owned by E. J. Jagger, who purchased it of D. Sherer in 1837. John Robertson lived twenty years on what is known now as the Steiger farm, and then purchased the place where he now lives with his son William. He had five sons. The sons of David Sherer were John, who became a Presbyterian minister; William, who was a physician in Virginia and Kentucky, and died in the latter State; James and Samuel, at present residents of Dimock. Their father died on the farm they now occupy, in 1846, aged eighty-seven. He left Ireland when five years old; was a Revolutionary soldier when aged eighteen, and was at the battle of Stillwater, the surrender of Burgoyne, and with Washington in the encampment at Valley Forge. He became a Presbyterian, and was a consistent church member for the last fifty-five years of his life.

His daughter Mary (Mrs. Baldwin of New York) was one of the early teachers of the township. David Robertson, son of John, was also a teacher about forty years ago.

In 1816 John A. Patch came to what is called "the Abel Sherman farm," when that was in Bridgewater, and remained on it until 1831. He died in the township March, 1840. His widow, Polly, is still living. The family consisted of seven sons and four daughters. Three of the latter now live in the county; one son, Joseph H., is in Forest Lake, the others are either dead or out of the county. Benjamin L., the youngest, has been, for several years, a president judge in Carroll County, Illinois.

In the same year Reynolds and Frost were in partnership as clothiers.

In 1817 Thomas H. Doyle was a cloth dresser, six miles from Montrose on the Wyalusing road, and in 1818 Isaac H. Ross and Jonathan C. Sherman took the same stand—the house is now a part of Depue's mills.

In 1819 James Young, Sen., a native of Scotland, came from the vicinity of Philadelphia, and settled in that part of Jessup once Bridgewater. He had started for Silver Lake, having heard flattering accounts of the lands of Dr. Rose, but upon reaching the place of J. W. Robinson, in what is now Dimock, he was induced to purchase land belonging to the Wallace estate (now in Jessup), about three-fourths of a mile west of B. McKenzie. Here his family occupied a log-house, without a door, as many had done before them. Such hardships, however, seem not to have shortened the lives of the pioneers; Mr. Y. lived to be seventy-three, and his wife, who died in 1862, nineteen years later, was over ninety years of age. The farm is now

owned and occupied by their son James. Mr. Y. left this place two years after he came to it, and lived, perhaps, a dozen years on the Mallery farm before returning to the old homestead.

George Clagget made the first improvement on the corner where Dr. N. P. Cornwell has been located since 1837. It was a part of Col. Turrell's farm; Curtis Bliss owned it in 1820. The latter and John Shelp went through western New York on a tour of exploration about this time, and, in a letter soon after published in Waldie's 'Messenger' (at Montrose), he says:—

"As to the soil we are satisfied from what we saw, and from the information we received of the amount of crops raised where we have been, that if we and our neighbors will cultivate our soil as it ought to be cultivated, there are few places which we have seen on our route that will be able to claim a superiority over us as to *quantity* of produce, and certainly none as to value."

Two of his neighbors took nearly the same route, soon after, to judge for themselves of the correctness of Mr. Bliss' statements, and add:—

"Though our soil generally is not equal to some that may be found westward, yet, independent of the sickness interrupting the labors of a farmer on the flats, our crops, acre for acre, are worth much more here than there. There is one thing well known to all the settlers in our county—that the soil here is *very lasting*—for the oldest farms, when ploughed and properly cultivated, produce the best crops, better than new lands."

Mr. Bliss states:—

"I have been in thirteen States of the Union, and in comparison with all the parts that I have seen (taking into view the price of land and the uncommon healthiness of this county), I can truly say I think there is every reason for the inhabitants of Susquehanna County to be satisfied with it."

The first post-office was established in 1829 at Fairdale, Asa Olmstead, postmaster. It is spoken of as *re-established* in 1842, Daniel Hoff, postmaster.

About twenty years ago another post-office was opened on Porter Ridge, Pliny Birchard, postmaster. On his resignation Robert Griffis, Esq., was appointed postmaster, just at the expiration (under the new Constitution) of his term as justice of the peace. He held the latter office, by appointment and election, about thirty years, and the post-office ten years; but the mail is now discontinued at that point.

Elder William Brand was located in Jessup in 1832, having then but recently arrived from Portsmouth, England, where he was settled many years as a Baptist minister. One of his daughters was a successful teacher in Montrose. She married Rev. Justin A. Smith, D.D., now of Chicago, in which city she died in September, 1871. Eld. B. removed some years ago.

Dr. William Bissel came into the county in 1827. He was then a medical student with Dr. Samuel Bissel of Brooklyn. In Nov. 1831 he read with Dr. Fraser, and was for two years in

business with Dr. Leet at Friendsville; then came to Jessup, not far from his present location, on one of the early clearings of John Blaisdell. Elder Brand also occupied one of these clearings.

In 1837, the Rush Baptist church was organized at the Bolles school-house, and, twenty-five years later, also the Jessup Soldiers' Aid Society. The old building stood on the corner opposite the present neat structure, near the grave-yard.

The first officers appointed by the court after the erection of Jessup were: L. W. Birchard, constable; John Bedell, Orrin S. Beebe, Waller Olmstead, supervisors.

The first officers elected by the people: L. W. Birchard, constable; John Bedell, James Waldie, and Walter Foster, supervisors; Elkanah Bolles, clerk; Asa Olmstead, treasurer; Lory Stone, assessor; Erastus V. Cook, Joseph W. Smith, and David S. Robertson, auditors; J. C. Sherman, Henry Shelp, Simeon A. Bolles, John Hancock, Waller Olmstead, and Horace Smith, school directors; John Hancock, judge of elections; James Bolles, Asa Olmstead, and Jeremiah Baldwin, inspectors; Joseph W. Smith, justice of the peace.

There is now in the possession of Edgar W. Bolles the trunk of a hemlock two and a half feet in diameter, bearing unmistakable internal marks of a sharp tool in several places. The tree fell in 1851, and opened in such a way as to show the marks, which, from the subsequent layers of wood, are supposed to have been made more than two hundred years ago.

CHAPTER XXIV.

FOREST LAKE.

IN 1835 viewers were appointed to mark the bounds of a new township to be taken from parts of Middletown, Bridgewater, and Silver Lake. Their report was accepted by the court May, 1836; and the twenty-second township was named Forest Lake from a small sheet of water near its former center. The west line of Bridgewater previously passed through it.

The new township was about four miles east and west by five miles north and south; but it has since been twice enlarged by the reduction of Middletown. The middle branch of the Wyalusing rising in the northwest, and the outlet of the lake, flowing into the east branch, principally drain the township; though Choconut and Silver creeks have their sources in the northern and eastern parts.

The Milford and Owego turnpike (completed December, 1821) crosses the township, diagonally, from southeast to northwest, overtopping the high hills, and coursing down them to leap, but never to follow, the narrow streams. In extenuation of its route, it is said, the road was built to accommodate the early settlers, who were fond of locating on the tops of hills; not only because the soil was better than in the valleys, but also because of the wider prospect. A writer in 1832 says of this turnpike—

“Any one who has toiled over its endless hills will recollect them, and for those who have not, a description is useless. Like the Falls of Niagara they must be seen to be wondered at. Few teams from Montrose proceed further than the Apolacon road; for though the distance is greater by three or four miles, the latter route is preferred, and can be traveled in a shorter time. Still, before you get here, fifteen long miles over fifteen dreary hills have to be traversed.”

Written as this was, at a time when it was sought to bring everything to bear favorably upon the interests of the western part of the county, and when a railroad from the Lackawanna coal field to Owego was in contemplation, one might have been tempted to exaggerate existing inconveniences; but impartial criticism will sustain the writer. A gentleman traveling over the road for the first time, on arriving at the hotel, in Montrose, remarked before several gentlemen (one of whom located it), “There’s just one mistake they made when they laid out that road.” “Ah! what’s that?” was asked. “Back here there’s a piece of level land, whereas, if they had turned a little to the right, they might have made another hill.” Many a joke is told at the expense of the surveyor of the road. A foreigner who settled in the township said, “If I believed in the transmigration of souls, I should hope the soul of the surveyor of the Owego turnpike might be given to an old horse, and doomed to go before the stage between Montrose and Owego.”

In 1799, Jesse and Jabez A. Birchard came from Connecticut to what is now called Birchardville, on the Middle Branch of the Wyalusing, worked on land under a Connecticut title, and built themselves log houses. The locality is now within the present area of Forest Lake, though it belonged in Middletown, from the organization of that township. When the Birchards came, “Ruby” was their recognized locality; probably, they then knew nothing, and cared less, for the metes and bounds of Pennsylvania. Hon. Charles Miner, in 1799, mentions them as the first and only inhabitants of Ruby. He was then in “Usher,” (now Jessup); and in a letter to the pioneer festival, held at Montrose, June, 1858, he says: “I used to run over by the lot lines, to the settlement of my good friends, the Birchards, and spend a day of pleasure with them. It was at the deer lick at their door, that I shot my first buck.”

In March, 1800, Jabez A. brought his wife, the first woman in the place; and until May or June following, she did not see a woman, when two girls—Betsey Brownson and Betsey Hyde—walked through the woods from the Forks of the Wyalusing, to make her a visit, and stayed two nights; the distance, going and returning, being about fifteen miles.

Mr. and Mrs. B. had six children: Mary M., wife of Lewis Chamberlin, formerly of Silver Lake, and Fanny H., wife of Amos Bixby, are dead; Charles D., Backus, and George, now live in Iowa. Jabez A., Jr., also resided there from 1836 until his death, October 20, 1871, aged sixty-seven. He was a member of the first legislature of Iowa, and held many offices in Scott County.

In 1846, the father also removed to Iowa, where he died, December 18, 1848, aged seventy-three.

His farm in Forest Lake is now occupied by Edward Slawson.

Jesse Birchard brought his family in the spring of 1801, to the farm vacated early in 1870 by his son, the late John S. B. They had but partly unloaded their goods, when upon leaving them to go to Jabez's to dinner, sparks from a fire which Mr. B. had kindled fell upon them, and communicated to the house, which, together with their goods, was totally consumed. An earthen platter, an heirloom in the family from the time it was brought from England in the "Mayflower," was broken to pieces in saving their effects.

Mr. B. died May 20, 1840, in his seventieth year.

In the fall of 1801, Israel Birchard (cousin of Jesse and Jabez) with wife and six children; Jehiel Warner and wife; Eli Warner, and Joseph Butterfield, then a young man; came together from Granby, Mass., and settled in the neighborhood. There was not a cabin between Mr. Warner and the New York State line. The late Wm. Gordon occupied the first location of Israel Birchard, who afterwards lived in Jessup, where he died December 11, 1818.

The Birchards are descended from one of the old families of Hartford, Conn., whose English ancestor settled at Martha's Vineyard, in Puritan times. The New York branch of the family spell their name Burchard.

Mrs. Jesse B. is said to have been a granddaughter of Winslow Tracy (born 1690), whose wife was a descendant of Wm. Bradford, second Governor of Plymouth Colony and one of the company who made the first landing at Plymouth Rock. Mrs. B.'s Norman ancestry is traced back to A. D. 956; the settlement of the De Tracy family in England dates from King Stephen's time. This surname is taken, it is said, from the castle of Tracy, on the Orne.

Jehiel Warner built a log-house in 1800, on the site of Sewell

Warner's present residence, and returned to the East for his family.

Jonathan West and family came from Conn. the same year. Chester Wright is now on his farm, where the Milford and Owego turnpike crosses Pond Creek, or the outlet of Forest Lake. Here Mr. W. brought up a large family; all now scattered. Two houses built by him are still standing near "the corners." He was an upright man, and "efficient in the promotion of good." He died May, 1832, aged seventy-one. One of his sons, Joshua, lived on the farm, at the head of the lake, and built the house which is still standing.

In 1801, Benjamin Babcock came, and was the original settler of what has since been known as *the Brock farm*. In the spring of 1832, while attending to his cattle, he was injured in the head by one of them, and died from the effects. He had been a Revolutionary soldier, and was eighty-two years old.

During this year the township of Rush was erected. It included all the present township of Forest Lake, until the erection of Bridgewater.

In 1802, Samuel Newcomb settled at the outlet of Forest Lake, and for many years it was known as "Newcomb's Pond." He bought the house built by Eli Warner and added to it, making it a double log-house. This he sold in 1819 to Wm. Turner, an Englishman, and removed to "Fire Hill" (Jessup), where he lived twenty-five years or more, and then left the county to reside in central New York. His wife was a daughter of Jonathan West.

In 1803, Luther Kallam came from Stonington, Conn. (where he was born in 1760), and settled on Pond Creek, a little more than two miles south of the "Pond," where he resided until his death, June 5th, 1846, in the eighty-sixth year of his age. He enlisted, when but sixteen years old in the Revolutionary army; served, at different times, three years; and was in three engagements, one of which was at White Plains, N. Y. He is spoken of as a man of spotless integrity. He raised a large family, and his funeral was attended by about thirty of his grandchildren, and several great-grandchildren. Until recently one of his sons occupied his place, and it is still called the Kallam farm.

In the winter of 1809-10, Ezekiel and Elisha Griffis (brothers) moved into this section from the banks of the Wyalusing, where they had lived since 1799.

Ezekiel built on the site of the present residence of his nephew, Abner Griffis. Only a part of his house remains, and that is used as an out-building. It was once occupied by Adam Waldie, who purchased the farm about 1820, when Ezekiel removed to Bradford County.

Elisha built across the road from his brother, and resided there

until 1832, when he moved into the house Mr. Waldie had left several years earlier. In 1837 he built the large house now occupied by his son Abner, and lived in it until a short time before his death, when he again crossed the road to his old home. Here he died, May 17, 1870, aged eighty-one years. He had seven sons: Abner, Calvin B., Milton, Austin B., Elisha, John, and Jefferson; and one daughter, Mrs. E. B. Cobb of Rush. All but one of the family reside in the county.

Mrs. G. was a daughter of John Blaisdell. She died in 1861.

In his last years Mr. G. related several incidents that occurred prior to his removal from the Wyalusing. He had cracked many bushels of corn in a mortar before a mill was started. He learned to write by lying before a fire of pine-knots, his face shaded by a board. As late as 1810 he was often in the woods a whole week without seeing a human face. While clearing his farm in Forest Lake he was seven years without a team; it was cheaper to hire than keep one. The farm now supports the largest dairy in the county—about one hundred cows.

Stephen and Thaddeus Griffis, former residents of the county, belonged to another branch of the family.

In the spring of 1810 Loami Mott came from Stockbridge, Mass., to the place cleared by Joseph Butterfield, who then left for Bridgewater. Mr. B. had married; and had two children while in Rush (now Forest Lake). Isaac and Simon E. Fessenden now occupy the farm. Loami Mott was a deacon in the Baptist church. He died in 1857, aged eighty-two years. His sons are Meritt, Willard, and Elijah.

Samuel Clark, father-in-law of Loami M., came at the same time with the latter, and died twelve years later in the house built by Joseph Butterfield. His age was seventy-six. He had been an armorer in the Revolution. Orange Mott was a brother of Loami. He settled on the lower end of Stone Street, where Luke Jagger now lives. His sons are Orange, Rev. Wm. H. (of Hyde Park), Linus, Chester, and Amos. He died January 23, 1871, aged ninety-eight years, three months, and six days. The compiler had the pleasure of seeing him the previous fall. He was the oldest man then living in the county. He had been a member of the Baptist church over fifty years.

Leman Turrel was born in New Milford, Litchfield County, Conn., July 5, 1776 (the day after the declaration of Independence of the United States was signed in Congress). In 1793 he first came to Pennsylvania, in company with his mother, to visit his sister (Mrs. Kingsley), who then lived at the mouth of the Wyalusing Creek. His mother rode on horseback, and he walked; the distance being about two hundred and fifty miles.

In the spring of 1794, at the age of eighteen, he again came

to survey land, under the Connecticut title, for his uncle, Job Turrell, and returned in the fall.

In the summer of 1809 he came once more, and bought a tract of woodland upon the head waters of the middle branch of the Wyalusing Creek (now Forest Lake, two miles east of Friendsville, on the Milford and Owego turnpike road). Here he built a log-house in the wilderness, three miles from any other; and cut a road, at his own expense, the same distance, through the forest, to reach it.

In April, 1810, he removed with his family, consisting of his wife Lucy and four children, to his new woodland home. By untiring industry and perseverance he cleared a large farm, built a commodious residence, and acquired a handsome competence.

As occasion required he practised as a surveyor of land and roads; and when the Milford and Owego turnpike road was located through his land, he, with his two older sons, Stanley and Joel, built more than one mile of it themselves.

He had seven children, all now living excepting the eldest. They were Brittanina, Stanley, Joel, Leman Miner, Abel, Lucy Ann, and James. [Joel has since deceased.]

As no district schools could be sustained during this early settlement Mr. T. taught his children himself in the evenings after the labors of the day were over, by which, with their own co-operation and efforts, they obtained a better education than many persons do with all their present advantages.

The original farm, to which have been made large additions, is now owned and occupied by the three older sons.

Leman T. died December 28, 1848, in the seventy-third year of his age, and his wife died December, 1864, in her eighty-ninth year.

Perry Ball came from Stockbridge, Mass., about 1810 or 1811, and settled on the farm where his grandson, E. G. Ball, now resides, half a mile east of where Loami Mott lived.

Seth Taylor, a native of Litchfield County, Conn., located first, in 1810, on the farm next below Garrad Stone. He settled afterwards on the road leading from the middle branch to the Chocanut, where he remained until 1861; when, in company with his son Edwin, he removed to California, and while there made his home with his son Job T. Taylor, Esq., one of the earliest settlers of Plumas County. There he died, June 26, 1869, aged nearly eighty-eight years. He was a justice of the peace for Forest Lake at the time of its erection.

In 1810, Darius Bixby and Philo Morehouse, from Vermont, settled one mile east of what is now Friendsville. The former afterwards moved to the shore of the pond, in Middletown, which bears his name.

Philo Bostwick came in about the same time, and, for nearly a

quarter of a century, was a leading man in the community. The elections were held at his house, at the foot of the hill on Stone Street. He was a justice of the peace for Middletown; his death occurring in 1834, two years before the erection of Forest Lake, and long before Stone Street became a part of it. He was killed, while chopping, by the fall of a tree; his age was fifty-one years.

Garrad Stone and wife came from Litchfield County, Conn., in 1810, and settled on the farm of three hundred acres, lately occupied by his younger brother Judson. It was then in Rush, but from 1813 in Middletown. He died September 21, 1855, at the age of sixty-seven. His first wife died November 6, 1848, aged sixty-two. Three married daughters survive.

Judson Stone came August, 1813, the day after he was twenty-one years old, and bought two hundred and eighty acres of land in Middletown, and began to clear up.

In the fall of 1814 he returned to Connecticut, and married, the following January, Polly Turrell.

He set out with his young bride for Susquehanna County, making the journey with an ox team, the usual mode in those days of emigrating westward. They were sixteen days upon the road. He lived upon the place first selected as his home until the death of his wife, July 17, 1855, when he purchased his brother's farm adjoining, where he lived until his death. His wife had a cheerful temperament. A log-cabin in the wilderness, with only a chest for a table, could not check her vivacity. Privations gave but a keener zest to pleasures.

Mr. Stone built the large house now occupied by his son-in-law, Geo. B. Johnson.

From boyhood until his death he was by principle opposed to war. His convictions on this and other matters pertaining to Church and State were similar to the religious teachings and tenets of the Society of Friends, for whom he expressed the greatest consideration.

He was strenuously opposed to the use of tobacco and intoxicating beverages.

Between 1840 and 1845 he was largely interested in the tannery business. He subsequently formed a mercantile partnership in Friendsville with Amos Mott, and afterwards with Ahira Wickham, which continued for several years. In all these enterprises he was successful.

In 1855 he was married to Catharine Stone, widow and second wife of his brother Garrad, who now survives him.

He died June 22, 1871, aged seventy-eight years and ten months. Six daughters survive, all the children of his first wife.

The widow of Walker Stone (a brother of Garrad) came from

Connecticut, in 1829, with five children, of whom Judson Stone, 2d, is the only one now living in the county.

Canfield S., another brother, came in 1821 to the farm just north of Judson's first location; it was afterwards occupied by his son James, who died in 1860.

The three farms constituted a tract given them by their father, Canfield, who purchased it prior to their arrival. He lived and died in Connecticut. One of Canfield's daughters is Mrs. Calvin Leet of Friendsville.

The road from Birchardville to Friendsville, from its occupation by the three brothers, received the name of Stone Street. It is parallel with a creek which empties into the middle branch at the former place, and has been recently taken from Middletown. The line now runs fifty rods west of the road, near the late residence of Mr. Stone, but is, perhaps, half a mile from it at the turn near Birchardville.

Philip Blair was on the Middle Branch, below Birchardville, in 1813.

A year or two later, Abiathar, William, and Samuel Thatcher were settled near Leman Turrell.

In 1815, Stephen Bentley, originally from Rhode Island, came with his family, from Greene County, N. Y. He bought a farm on the Owego turnpike about five miles from Montrose, where he kept a public house a number of years. His children were Stephen, Marshall, Benjamin S., and George V.; and two daughters. He died in 1831, and his wife seventeen years later, aged about seventy-five years. With the exception of the youngest son, none of their family remain in the county.

In 1817, Wm. Gaylord Handrick settled near the east line of Middletown (as originally located); but, after a year or two, he built the large red house near the tannery on Stone Street. He was a tanner and shoemaker. He served as a justice of the peace for many years, and a term as county commissioner. His death occurred in 1866. He was thrice married and had thirteen children, all by his first wife, of whom six are living in the county; William B., Wakeman C., Henry F., and David C.; Mrs. I. P. Baker, and Mrs. William Miles of Dimock.

In 1819, William Turner and wife arrived from England; having heard of Dr. Rose's lands being occupied by a British settlement. Mr. T. purchased the log-house and farm vacated by Samuel Newcomb, at the foot of "Newcomb's Pond." This was named by Mrs. T., "Forest Lake"—then a most appropriate name; as, in the immediate vicinity of the lake there was but one clearing, and it was *all* forest to St. Joseph's.

Under the transforming hand of taste, the log-cabin became a charming home. The rustic gate of laurel boughs, and the trellised porch, lent an outward grace to the rude fence and

rough walls; while the spirit and intelligence of the occupants made the spot "the retreat of the social, the gay, and refined." The place still bears marks of the care she bestowed upon it. What the locality was on the arrival of Mrs. T. can be best understood from a letter written by herself. It was published in the 'New York American' and 'Phila. Union,' and copied into the 'Susquehanna County Herald,' edited by Adam Waldie.

Extracts of a letter from an English lady to her friend in New York.

"COUNTY OF SUSQUEHANNA, Sept. 3, 1821.

"To Mrs. —:—The kind interest you expressed for us on our arrival at New York as strangers, and the generous solicitude you evinced lest our trial of farming in this country should end in disappointment, induces me now, after a period of nearly two years, to give you the following brief statement; and your kind heart shall judge of our present prospects. On our arrival at Montrose, we were directed to Silver Lake; where we were received with a courtesy which, I confess, I had not expected to meet with in the backwoods; for we had been told they were only inhabited by wolves, and bears of two kinds, biped and quadruped. It was therefore no small satisfaction to us (after a journey of one hundred and fifty miles from New York), through forests whose gloom and vastness are appalling to an European's eye, accustomed to the groves and *rose-girt* meadows of England, to find that we had escaped being devoured by the wild beasts of the wilderness; and instead of meeting with a complete *land-jobber*, ready to take every advantage of foreigners, we had to deal with a gentleman, whose manners bore a pleasing promise of what we have since proved—a liberal and unbiased conduct. After viewing several farms we fixed upon the one we have now purchased, consisting of 294 acres, with a lake in which is plenty of fish. The person from whom we purchased the improvement, had held the farm seventeen years, and had built on it a double log-house and a good barn; himself and family were living here till the day we entered. Accustomed, as we had been, to a home possessing all the comforts, and some of the elegancies of life, our rustic log-hut, surrounded by black-looking stumps, which seemed to stand like *memento moris*, gave a cheerless and disheartening aspect to our Susquehanna home; but a very few days of active industry turned our log-house into a clean cottage. A little white-wash and paint have a talismanic effect on dirty walls; a comfortable carpet hides a rough floor; and the good polish of housewifery will soon make dull things bright. Out-door improvements require more time and labor; and, where neglect has suffered the bramble to overrun the land, the English settler has much to do ere he can bring his farm to look tolerable to his eye. But a good flock of sheep are better exterminators than the scythe or reaping-hook; they are fond of the young shoots, and these being frequently bitten down, the root is soon destroyed. . . . We have now a pretty flower-garden in which my favorite roses grow luxuriantly, with lilacs, rhododendrons, etc., with many annuals and perennials, some of which are from *dear old England*. Our porch is covered with the calabash, the morning-glory, and scarlet runners, which the humming-birds delight in, and perch on their blossoms as tame as our pet robins. I love to see the native plants mingling their beautiful dyes with my own country's flowers. It seems like what our nations should be, *united*, blending their glories without rivalry. . . . We are delighted with the excellence of the water. We have a spring that has not failed us one day, winter or summer. Your kind apprehensions for our health have proved fruitless; not one of us has had a *cold* even—which, I confess, surprises me, as our winters are more severe than those of England;

but the air is salubrious, and we have enjoyed excellent health through all the seasons. It is a great pleasure to us to read how the world goes, and we get 'The Observer' regularly once a month, so that we have all the news about a month after it is published in London—an advantage few emigrants can boast, I believe, four thousand miles from home. You know I laughingly told you we should rival *your* concerts in New York; we sing Mozart's beautiful operas in our forest; and last winter we had some *quadrilles* very gracefully danced in our parlor—the first that ever were danced in a log-house perhaps. In short, come and witness my content and happiness in my new home; my harp sounds as sweetly in our log house as it did in a loftier dome. I believe it is the first that has breathed its tones in Susquehanna.

"Yours, etc."

The publication of the foregoing in Mr. Waldie's paper, called out the following, addressed to him by a gentleman who signed himself "Bridgewater." (This part of Forest Lake was then Bridgewater. The "Eudoxia" referred to was Miss Waldie; and "Musidora" was Miss Maria Bentley, afterwards, Mrs. Foster).

"A letter in one of your late numbers, for its purity of language and harmony of style, is not exceeded by anything I have read. . . . Eudoxia has likewise favored us with a specimen of her talents, and I hope she will not be offended at my reminding her, that her masculine understanding, and correct style, are highly appreciated by all who have the honor to know her. . . . Musidora too—the timid, the retiring Musidora, need not fear to write—her uncommon understanding, refined taste, and richly stored mind, need only to be known to be admired and respected. . . . I beg therefore, sir, that you will use your influence, to prevail on this accomplished and fascinating trio, to comply with our respectful request, that they will condescend to employ a few of their leisure moments to amuse, delight, and instruct us, with their pens."

In 1822 Mrs. Turner issued a volume of her poems entitled the 'Harp of the Beech-woods.'

Five years later *her* harp was mute in *forest* halls; her husband finding himself unequal to the task of subduing the wilderness, and making a living, abandoned his enterprise in Susquehanna County, and went to New York city, where Mrs. T. engaged in teaching music.

Later she wrote from Manchester, England, respecting their residence in Forest Lake.

"I believe the *locality* was all the insurmountable difficulty. Had we fixed near a navigable river, or within easy distance of a good market, the capital we sank in the purchase of Forest Lake, would, in its interest, have rented a small and profitable farm."

In 1833 she wrote—

"I am pleased to hear such good accounts of Forest Lake [there was then no township of this name, and she intended only to designate the vicinity of the lake], and that it is not abandoned to the raccoons, the squirrels, the deer, and the wolves, but sociably inhabited, and elegantly improved by the good taste of Mr. and Mrs. Brown."

In 1819 John B. Brown, also an Englishman, located near the lake. He was an intellectual acquisition to the neighborhood,

but he remained only a few years. The house he occupied has since been burned. It stood just north of the present residence of Chauncey Wright. It was built by William Wynn, who soon left it to reside in Montrose. On Mr. Brown's return to England he traveled northward; and contributed to the 'Register,' published at Montrose, a series of articles entitled 'Things in Scotland.'

Not far from this time Frederick Brock, a German, located at "Brockville," five miles from Montrose, on the farm cleared by Benjamin Babcock. Mrs. B. was from Philadelphia, and in that city their son Frederick died April, 1841, in his thirty-third year. He was known in this vicinity as a young man of excellent talents and acquirements. He left a widow (who died a year later) and two children, since dead. Fred. Brock, Sen., died November 5, 1843, and his widow has since deceased.

Michael Flynn, one of the first Irishmen in Forest Lake, occupies the Brock farm.

Adam Waldie came with his wife and sisters, from Scotland, to the present town of Dimock in 1819; two years later he removed to the farm formerly occupied by Ezekiel Griffis, for which he paid \$2100. He grew weary of his situation; and as this was but part payment the land reverted to Dr. Rose.

In December, 1822, he went to Philadelphia, and published 'Waldie's Circulating Library,' a valuable literary paper.

"Mr. Waldie was highly esteemed, not only for his literary attainments, but for his amiable manners and gentlemanly bearing." The publication of the 'Messenger' and the 'Herald,' devoted to the dissemination of useful intelligence, and neutral in politics as they were, at a time of very great political excitement (over two years from June, 1820), could not have had other than a salutary influence.

The condition of things here, as described by Mr. Waldie a short time before he left, show that it was owing to no defect in our soil that he was induced to leave. He says in the Susquehanna County 'Herald,' June 29, 1822:—

"A very few years since, this country was the sole possession of Indians and wild animals. The earliest settlers, trudging along for the distance of twenty or thirty miles to mill with a bushel of grain on their backs, were considered fair game for the ridicule of the inhabitants of the surrounding country. They considered those people insane who could ever think of settling among these hills. Mark the consequence. This season there have been teams from the neighboring counties to purchase grain in Montrose, and were supplied. We do not mention this boastfully. We feel grateful that we have a supply for those in want, and mention it simply to show how rapidly a change has been effected in this county, as well as in other parts of the Union. Though the settlement here does not show such a rapid, mushroom growth, as many places have exhibited, we hope that it will show a stamina equal to any."

C. F. A. Volz, a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, built the

house on the top of the hill, east of the lake, about 1824. He made application to the court, September, 1823, for naturalization, which was not granted in full until May, 1828. He is spoken of as a highly accomplished gentleman. His farming was like that of many amateurs—better in theory than in practice. The raising of sheep received considerable attention from him, and with some success. He named his place "Hope." It was near the sixth mile-stone on the Milford and Owego turn-pike. The house is described as "rambling and disjointed," and is still odd enough, after some alterations have been made for the sake of convenience. Mr. V. was sometimes styled "Baron," but this may have been only a matter of compliment. He was a single man, and his domestic affairs were managed by Tom Brown and wife. His death occurred in 1839.

The farm was secured before his death to B. T. Case, Esq., and is now in the hands of his heirs.

John S. Towne, a blacksmith, was here as early as 1824. His house is the present place for holding elections. He married a daughter of Jehiel Warner.

The forests of the township, besides beech, include hemlock, maple, birch, and ash; not much pine is found. The soil is considered rather better than that of Silver Lake.

No flax was raised for some time before the war, but considerable attention has since been given to its culture. Little wheat is grown, but excellent crops of corn, buckwheat, oats, rye, and potatoes are raised. The country in this section was quite thickly settled as early as 1830. Those persons who located themselves early in that part of Middletown since set off to Forest Lake, were, in many instances, never residents of the latter; their death or removal occurring previous to its erection into a township—and their names and efforts are all associated with the former.

The Birchardville post-office, established in 1826 in Middletown, is retained in Forest Lake.

In 1831, the second post-office within the limits of Forest Lake was established under the name of "West Bridgewater," Zura S. Doty, postmaster. Its name was afterwards changed to Forest Lake post-office, and Elisha Griffin was appointed postmaster. The office has since been changed to Seth Wright. Within fifteen years Chase post-office was established in the western part of the township (as it was then); but the name and office are now discontinued, and that of Forest Lake Center takes its place.

About 1830, Robert W. Huddlestone built a grist-mill at the outlet of the lake. Every stick of timber used was cut and drawn by Alexander Smith, now of Montrose.

The first pickerel ever put in Forest Lake were obtained by

Messrs. Volz and Brock, from Lathrop's Lakes (Elk Lake); and for five years no fishing was allowed there. The pickerel have always been abundant since that time. Mr. Smith himself "cut a hole in the ice and dumped the strangers in"—half a barrelful. Some years later when three lads were out in a frail canoe fishing, one Josephus Kenyon, aged fifteen years, was drowned.

Huddleston's mill was rebuilt, in 1845, by Chauncey Wright, Esq., who came to Forest Lake, from Choconut, three years previous, and established the clothing works where the factory now stands, and where the business has been continued ever since by his son, Chester Wright; who added, in 1847, a carding-machine. The woolen factory was built twenty years later by Wright Brothers & Southwell.

As early as 1815 a grist-mill and distillery, erected by Jabez A. Birchard, were in active operation; as also a wool-carding establishment and saw-mill, by Loami Mott, in the Middletown portion of the township. A few years later Wm. G. Handrick started a tannery on Stone Street, now owned by Mr. Guylfoyle. There are now five or six saw-mills in the township.

At the time of the "*morus multicaulis*" fever, in 1839, Horace Birchard, a resident of Forest Lake, manufactured a superior quality of silk; he had several species of the mulberry.

The school-houses of the township are all new.

The library formed forty years ago at Jehiel Warner's (then Middletown) is now kept at the same place, in Forest Lake, by his grandson, Sewell Warner. An annual contribution from each member enables the association to make occasional purchases of new books. The whole number of volumes is between three and four hundred.

Joseph Backus, of Bridgewater, now over eighty years of age, taught a common school thirty winters in different localities, closing his services thirty years ago in what is known as the Griffis District in Forest Lake. Recently he visited that district, and says:—

"Now, after so long an absence, what do I find on my return? Not a single family remaining that was there at that time; some removed, others snatched away by death's relentless hand; their places being occupied by strangers, and by those who were my former pupils; and the son of one of those I found to be the teacher of the school."

The Baptist church of Rush, since Middletown, and now Forest Lake, was the first church organized within this section. It was the result of the labors of Elder Davis Dimock, who had frequently threaded the forests to gather up the scattered members of Christ's fold, holding meetings in the "Washington school-house,"¹ and in another near Jesse Birchard's. From the narra-

¹ This school-house was in the northwest corner of Jessup. It has been gone many years.

tive of the great revival in Bridgewater in 1810, given by Elder Dimock some years later, we learn that "people came from a great distance, and he was invited to preach in other towns, and some in each place believed and were baptized." All joined the Bridgewater church, as there was no other in this region of the country.

In 1811 those who lived in Rush (then eighteen miles north and south by eight miles east and west) agreed to meet on the Lord's Day for prayer and reading of the word of God; and also to invite their neighbors. Elder Dimock sometimes visited them, and February 29, 1812, they were constituted a church with twelve members, not one of whom is now living. The last one of the twelve, Mrs. Naomi Birchard, died in 1870, aged seventy-two. But their descendants and others, to the number of eighty, maintain the organization then effected, and worship in a neat church-edifice erected at Birchardville. After Elder Dimock, Elders Parker, Brand, Frink, H. H. Gray, and Tilden have occupied its pulpit.

The Baptist church of Forest Lake was organized in 1842 with sixteen members. A house in the vicinity of the lake was purchased and fitted up for a meeting-house; though refitting is necessary to make it comfortable.

The first Presbyterian church of Rush, now Forest Lake, was organized December, 1811, at the house of Jehiel Warner. Its constituent members were Jesse and Israel Birchard, Jonathan West, Zenas Bliss, Harriet and Lydia Birchard, Polly Bliss, Maria Fishback, Phinis Warner, Anna and Laura Stone, and Minerva Taylor.

The first ministers whose services were occasionally enjoyed here were Revs. Joseph Wood, O. Hill, E. Kingsbury, and Solomon King.

In 1822, if not earlier, preaching and church-meetings were held at the house of Jesse Birchard; in 1827 at the school-house near J. A. Birchard's. The records of the church were kept just twenty-six years, during which twenty-three members only were added, and the same number taken from it by death or otherwise, and after 1837 neighboring churches absorbed the remnant.

The Methodist church at Forest Lake Center was built in 1847. It was repaired and rededicated in 1871.

There are five cemeteries—the oldest at Birchardville, donated by Jesse Birchard; one near J. Stone's; one on the farm of L. M. Turrell, land donated to the public by his father; one near the lake, and another near S. D. Cornell's.

Jabez A. Birchard's oldest child, Mary, was born in 1801—the first birth in the township. Hubbard Warner was the next, and

there was not a death in the neighborhood "until those children were old enough to sit up with the corpse." This death was that of Miss Betsey Rice, who died at Loami Mott's, and was the first person buried near the Baptist church at Birchardville. Now thirty of the name of Birchard are buried there.

CHAPTER XXV.

CLIFFORD.

In April, 1805, Asahel Gregory, and other residents of Nicholson (which then covered territory now including eight townships of Susquehanna County), petitioned the court at Wilkes-Barre for a division of the township. At April sessions, 1806, the report of viewers was finally confirmed, and Clifford was erected with boundaries "beginning at the northeast corner of Nicholson, on the Wayne County line" (or where Long Lake nearly touches it in Ararat), "and running nine miles due west, thence due south to south line of said township," thirteen miles, to a point now included in Luzerne County. Upon the organization of Susquehanna County, in 1810, the size of Clifford was nine miles east and west by twelve miles north and south.

In November, 1813, by the erection of Gibson, it parted with a little more than half its area; and in May, 1825, by the erection of Herrick, with a strip of five or six square miles on its northern border. Thus it lost Uniondale and lands westward to nearly the foot of the western slope of Elk Mountain. But there is still left to Clifford the principal outlook from the mountain—the Rock.

From this point a prospect is obtained unparalleled in extent, if not in beauty, to that obtained from any point in Susquehanna County, and probably in eastern Pennsylvania.

Some persons claim that the mountain is "the highest point of land between the lakes and the ocean." However this may be, it is certain that few mountains in our State are more than two or three hundred feet higher; if it is correct, as given in 'Burrowes' State Book,' that the highest is but twenty-five hundred feet above the Atlantic, for, by the survey of the table-land in Ararat township, the railroad summit is 2040 feet above tide-water, and, from the northeast side of Prospect Rock, one looks *down* upon that eminence. Some assert that the north peak hides the view of "the summit" from the rock, but it was pointed out to the writer during her recent visit there.

On a bright November day the five lakes in the immediate

vicinity glistened in the sunlight; though they were not *then* "gems set in *emerald* wreaths," for the hills were brown and the forests faded to somberness. Yet, the scene was full of grandeur, impressing one principally with its vastness. "The sea! the sea!" was the idea presented by the view along the wide horizon, for the hills were as billows on billows; white sails were imaged in painted houses far away, and, in some places these crested the hills as foam crests the ocean.

Except on the north the view is uninterrupted to an extent which included all that has been described by others as distinguishable from the summit of the north peak, which is said to be the higher, and from this point the landscape is pronounced

"One of surpassing loveliness and grandeur. Overlooking the Lackawanna and Moosic, which are in its immediate vicinity, the view is terminated, southwardly, by the Blue (or Kittatinny) Mountains, in which the Wind Gap and Delaware Water Gap are both distinctly visible. Eastwardly can be distinguished the extension of the Blue Ridge into New Jersey and New York, stretching upward along the Delaware, and still beyond, the Shawney Creek range, until it is lost in the greater elevation and bolder outline of the far-famed Catskill. On the north and west, the eye takes in the whole of that immense tract comprehended in the bold sweep in the Susquehanna River. It enters Pennsylvania at the northeast extremity; and then, as if deterred by a succession of mountain fastnesses through which it must break, or repentant at leaving its parent State, it turns again across the line, and does not re-enter Pennsylvania for many miles. Here is presented a combined view of all the beauties of mountain and rural scenery. Bold bluffs indent the extreme distance, along the wide and graceful sweep of the river; on the intervening hillsides, which rise apparently one above another, like an amphitheatre, until the horizon is reached, numerous tracts of cultivated ground appear, as if cleft out of the deeper green of the forests; while, here and there, gleaming in the sunlight, many a crystal lake is seen, adding life and brilliancy to the picture."

Another writer says:—

"Necessarily, a clear day, good eyes, and a spy-glass of some power, are needed to enjoy all that may be seen from any of these sublime altitudes. From all points but the southeast, the elevations seem to be covered with the native forests. Approaching it from Dundaff or Clifford, however, it is cultivated to its summit. We left the horses at a point where Mr. Finn¹ has erected a three-story house for the entertainment of travellers and sight-seers. A path through small trees and brush, brings you to a perpendicular ledge of rocks, skirting which on the east you find some stone steps,² upon which you ascend to Pulpit or Table Rock—quite a level plat of sodded surface, just in the edge of Clifford township."

This ledge is so large, however, that from "Kentuck," in Gibson, its outline can be distinctly traced. It is another "Look-out Mountain," without its bloody associations. To the southeast can be traced, by the steam of their locomotives, the line of

¹ Mr. Clark Finn owns the land including the rock, but the western slope belongs to David Thomas.

² For these accommodating steps the public are indebted to Mr. Charles Wells, of Clifford.

the railroad from Carbondale to Honesdale; to the west, that of the Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western; and, near at hand, that of the Jefferson Railroad.

The steam from the stationary engine of the first named, sixteen miles distant, rises in a straight column—a prominent object in that direction. Twenty-five miles northwest from the Rock, a cleared field above the Fair Ground at Montrose, is seen; and, on and beyond this, lie against the sky the blue hills bordering the Susquehanna River in Bradford County. Withdrawing the eye from remote objects, the whole of Clifford lies before it like a map. At the left gleams Cotteral Pond, from near which one traces the East Br. of the Tunkhannock, until it is hidden at “the City;” but it appears again on Decker Flat, and below. Directly south, four or five miles away, far above the Tunkhannock, rests Crystal Lake, flooded with light, and near it Newton’s Pond, both being just beyond Dundaff, whose spires and public houses can be readily distinguished. Above Clifford Corners, Alder Marsh lies low near the Cemetery, whose white stones, like those on the hill beyond “the City,” are plainly seen. The latter glimmer between the dark evergreens that ornament the ground sacred to the dead. Near by is the Baptist church. Another can be seen on the left, and the Welsh church on the right. Round Hill¹ is the southwestern spur of Elk Mountain. Seen from any point, it appears symmetrically round, and wooded enough to give it beauty. Apparently just back of it, but really some miles away, towers Thorn Hill, which figures in the early history of the township. In all directions stretch roads which cross each other, and pleasant farms lie between. At the right, the sheen of Long Pond beyond the “Collar road,”² and even that of Mud Pond, seems almost just beneath one’s feet. The Milford and Owego turnpike can be traced from Dundaff over the tops of the hills, and away into Lenox (near the Baptist church), and into Harford and Brooklyn. Kentuck and Kennedy Hills rise at the right, in Gibson. Looking again to the left, Millstone Hill rises this side (west) of the Lackawanna, in Clifford, and as its name imports, furnishes a valuable stone for milling purposes. It hides a view of “Stillwater.” The spire of Uniondale church, in Herrick, seems very near, though really five miles off; and farm-houses equally distant, appear, in the clear atmosphere, also but little removed.

It is difficult to prevent the eye from straying to distant objects, so wide is the range of vision, and so impressive the scene.

Most reluctantly, and after hours of pure enjoyment, do we

¹ Once owned by Walter Forrester, a Scotchman; at present, by Wm. T. Davies.

² John Collar and family lived in the vicinity. It connects the M. & O. and Newburgh turnpikes.

turn from the Rock, lingering the while, and even returning in the wrench of parting from a view such as we may never behold again.

At the foot of the stone steps, a short and steep declivity, at a right angle with our path, brings us to a spring of delicious water, whose flow is constant and ever the same; no less during the severest drouths, nor greater after driving storms or melting snows. Refreshed by a draught, we retrace our steps with some difficulty to the path, and resume the descent, finding our improvised staves of almost equal service as in the ascent. The timber of the mountain is principally oak, chestnut, hickory, and birch, with some beech.

The geography of no other township of Susquehanna County can be studied at one view, though much of Gibson, and the more prominent features of a dozen townships may be seen from the old Harmony road in Ararat, and from the summit east of it.

Bits of landscape of surpassing beauty often greet the vision, especially in the vicinity of the Susquehanna River and smaller streams; but the bird's-eye view of Clifford outvies them all.

Still, it appears this section was not settled as early, by several years, as the less inviting parts of the county. A few hardy pioneers found their way hither, and it was long known as the "Elkwoods Settlement"—the township as well as the mountain being the home of the elk in great numbers.

The forests of Clifford appear to have been broken in three places at nearly the same time.

From what can now be learned, it is probable the first stroke of the settler's ax resounded here, in 1799, on the east branch of the Tunkhannock, about a mile below the deep valley, now styled the "City,"¹ and was wielded by Amos Morse or his son, William A., on the farm now occupied by Ezra S. Lewis. They left in 1818. Miss Sally Morse was the first teacher in Clifford.

Benjamin Bucklin began clearing on the site of Dundaff probably in 1799, but did not locate there until three or four years later.

In the spring of 1800 Adam Miller and family settled on the flat, within fifty rods of what is now known as Clifford Corners.

He had been, in 1787, one of the first company of settlers on the Hopbottom, and possibly of the first in Susquehanna County. He emigrated to Ohio, in 1799, with his wife and four children. All were on horseback—four horses transporting the family and

¹ A newspaper correspondent says: "On inquiry as to the origin of so large a name for so diminutive and yet pleasant a place, it was stated, as tradition, that it arose from a preacher, passing through, discoursing from the text, 'Up, get ye out of this place, for the Lord will destroy this city.'" It is also known as McAlla's Mills, from the business conducted here for many years succeeding 1831, by John McAlla.

baggage—two of the children being carried in baskets placed over one of the horses. These children were the late Elder Charles Miller and Mrs. John Wells, of Clifford, from whose lips the narrative is given. The baskets were made in the shape of cradles, so the children could sit or lie down, as suited them. A journey of six weeks through a wilderness, such as the country exhibited in 1799, was far from agreeable to any of the party. Before they reached their destination Mrs. M. fell and broke her collar-bone, and they were detained three weeks at the wigwam of a hospitable Indian family. When they gained the promised land, Mr. M. could not suit himself in regard to location, and after a few days he broached the subject of a return to Pennsylvania. His wife, who had secretly longed for this, was soon ready to resume journeying, and the same season found them in the vicinity of Tunkhannock, and in the following spring they followed up the east branch of the creek to the flat at Clifford Corners. Here they lived twelve years, when they removed to Thorn Hill, where Elder William Miller, their grandson, now resides. While clearing at the latter place, Mr. M. had the use of the flat two years.

He belonged to the free-communion Baptist church, which was organized by Epaphras Thompson about 1802, but, in 1804, he left it to unite with the strict Baptists of the Abington Association.

Mrs. M. died at Thorn Hill, March, 1816, aged sixty-one years; her husband died April, 1831, aged about sixty-six years.

Amos Harding, in the summer of 1800, built, within sight of Adam Miller, on the same flat. His sons were Tryon and Zalmom. One daughter became the wife of James Stearns; another, the wife of Joseph Baker. He, with all his family, went to Ohio about fifty years ago.

David Burns came from Otsego County, N. Y., about 1800, and settled about two miles east of where Dundaff now stands, on the road leading to Belmont. He was a little west of a small stream, now known as Tinker Brook, and his farm on the large county map is marked by H. Hasbrook's name.

Opposite where the name of J. Westgate stands, Mr. Burns lost his only son about five or six years after he came into the wilderness, an account of which was written by Mrs. Thos. Burdick (one of his daughters), and published, August 1869, in the Montrose 'Republican;' she was the youngest of four girls, when her parents came in. She says:—

"I was not old enough to remember anything about coming here. The first of my recollection, we lived in a little log-cabin, hemlock bark for the roof, and the floor basswood logs. Our neighbors (who were very few) built in about the same style, for we were all poor. There were no saw-mills, so we could not get boards to build with. When we had been here about two

years we had a little brother (Eber). He was the idol of my parents, being the only son. About this time father went back to New York State, and got some sheep and a pair of oxen. Before he got his team he would take a grist on his back and carry it to Mt. Pleasant, a distance of about seven miles, that being the nearest grist-mill. The woods were our pasture. We found the cattle by the tinkle of the bell. Wild beasts were very plenty; and oh! the fear I have undergone while looking for the cattle and going to the neighbors. The wolves would come near our cabin and make the night hideous with howling. On one occasion one of father's oxen was missing. Three weeks after, father was hunting and found the head of the missing ox, and presently heard his cattle not far off. He went to them. A large wolf had the remaining ox by the flank, and the other cattle were running around them bellowing. He tried to shoot and not hit the cattle. In the excitement his gun went off by a branch catching in the lock, and the wolf ran away. These were hard times, but my parents did not get discouraged; they kept on toiling, clearing land, and raising grain. Mother spun flax and wool to make our clothes, until we had plenty, and to spare. We had fish, deer, and bear-meat. Our pigs lived on the nuts of the forest. Then father built a new log-house. I will not give a description of it. It was a palace compared to our little cabin. I was then six years of age, and my brother was in his fourth year. We had lived in our new house but a short time when our enjoyment was turned to sorrow. One pleasant morning in October, father said to Eber, 'Do you want to go with me?' He was much pleased, and started off in high glee, forgetting his hat and shoes. My sisters and myself went with them to a chestnut grove, but the burrs pricked my brother's bare-feet, so he wanted to go home. One of my sisters went with him to where the road was plain, and then returned. It will be remembered that the roads at that time were mere paths; we followed by marked trees. We did not get home until near night; the sun was about one hour high. Oh! what horror and confusion. My brother had not been home. He was lost. Have the wild beasts killed him? were our first thoughts. He had been gone all day. What could we do? My father ran as fast as he could to the woods. I can see him in imagination as plain as I then did, and I shall never forget that day until I forget all. My sisters went to a few of our neighbors for them to come and help look for him. They fired guns and blew horns all night to frighten, if possible, the beasts. But to add to our grief, in the night came on a terrible thunder-storm. The streams rose very high. Before morning the weather changed from warm to very cold. The men who had been out all night were so chilled they could scarcely speak, their clothes being wet. They thought my little brother could scarcely live through such a night—he being thinly clad—even if the wild beasts had not devoured him. In the morning the storm had past, and one of our neighbors went to Mt. Pleasant and Great Bend, and called on all the people on his way to turn out and look for a lost child. Men came from all parts as far as the news reached, and searched four days, and then gave up looking. Oh! what grief my parents endured. My father sought far and long, but all to no purpose. No trace of him could be found. Two years from this event my mother died. Father married again, and lived here until I was eighteen years of age; then he moved to the State of Ohio, from thence to Indiana, where he died of old age. I am the only one of the family living in this section of the country. I have lived near seventy years within one mile of where my father first built his log-cabin."

Jonathan Burns, known as Captain Burns, an elder brother of David, was located at first near the site of Dundaff; but in 1802 he removed to the east branch of the Tunkhannock, near the mouth of the creek that bears his name. From him sprung the

present Burns family, David having left no sons. His sons were Henry, Orrey, Alexander, Ziba, Jonathan, Thomas, and Ellery. Alexander was a justice of the peace, and died in the township. He is said to have been a man of fine manners and considerable culture for the times. Orrey died in Burlington, Bradford County; the rest are living. The father of Jonathan and David Burns came from the north of Ireland, and was Scotch-Irish.

"Captain Burns was a strong, athletic man. He was fond of all active sports, and hunted a great deal for profit as well as pleasure. It was easier to lay in a store of bear-meat or venison than to procure and fatten hogs.

"At one time, late in the fall of the year, he went out hunting on the Lackawanna mountains, south of where Carbondale now stands. While busily engaged in securing game to supply the family larder, the Lackawanna had become so swollen with rain as to be impassable. The weather had changed from the mildness of 'Indian summer' to piercing cold. His tow-frock was almost literally frozen to his body. His companion had become so discouraged that he sat down and declared he could go no further. Burns cut a whip and applied it with such vigor to his back, that he was stimulated to renewed exertions.

"They built a fire on the bank of the river, and the next morning the water had so far subsided that they felled trees across the river and went over safely. Burns then carried eighty pounds of bear-meat and a rifle weighing twenty pounds a distance of twelve miles without laying them off his shoulder.

"At another time he carried two bushels of wheat to the mill at Belmont, a distance of ten miles, and the flour, in returning, and stopped but once each way to rest."

James Norton, the father-in-law of David Burns, came from Saratoga, N. Y., about 1802. He was then an old man, and accompanied his sons Reuben and Samuel. They settled near Mr. Burns' on what is called the Burch road. Another son, Ishi, settled where the Crystal Lake hotel now stands.

Reuben was near the present Burch school-house; Samuel a little west of him.

About the same time that James Norton and family came, a widow Norton also came to the township, with three daughters and six sons. The latter were Abner, Daniel, Asahel, Luther, Lemuel, and Silas. Daniel and Asahel had families when they came.

Asahel was the first settler at the "City;" Luther was about half-way between this place and Dundaff, at the foot of Arnot Hill; Abner, Daniel, and Lemuel settled on a road northwest from the Burch road, near where Tinker Brook crosses it. One of the daughters was married to William Upton, who afterwards settled here. Silas was on "the Lyon road," or the road leading to Herrick.

The Nortons are now all dead, or have left this section, with the exception of Mrs. Horace Dart, a daughter of Abner. He had the first grindstone in the township. Previously they had to go from six to nine miles to get their axes sharpened.

William Finn, the youngest of five brothers who eventually came to Clifford, was the son of James, a Baptist preacher, who was in the Wyoming valley in 1778, and one of the party who were left to defend the women and children gathered together in the block-house or fort at the time of the massacre. He was forced to retire to Orange County, N. Y., whence he had emigrated; but in a few years he returned to Wyoming, and subsequently moved to Tunkhannock where he died. His widow came with William Finn soon after, or in 1802, to the present township of Clifford, and afterwards married Daniel Gore. William F. cleared and cultivated a large farm lying one mile west of Dundaff, where he reared his family of eight children. He built three dwelling-houses, one of stone, which was then considered a fine affair. His first framed-house was the second of the kind in Dundaff. His saw-mill was the first in successful operation there. He married the youngest daughter of James Norton, and both, now over eighty years old, are living with a daughter in Fleetville, Luzerne County.

Solomon, John, James, and Daniel, brothers of William Finn, also came in, and some of their descendants are still in the township. John was a blacksmith; James was a justice of the peace in 1821, and had twelve children, ten of whom lived to adult age. Of eight sons Clark, living on Elk Mountain, is the only one in Clifford.

Benjamin Bucklin and family, including Albigeance (or Alba) and Warren, his sons, came about 1804 and remained several years. His farm covered the site of Dundaff, and his house was the first built there.

A saw-mill was built by Mr. Bucklin on the stream which runs through Dundaff, and which was the first in the township; but William Finn's mill, on the same stream, was the first in successful operation.

He went back to the valley of the Mohawk before 1813, and his sons afterwards went to Ohio.

Near the present woolen factory at Dundaff, there was early a family by the name of Hulse.

In 1806, James Wells had a farm of 100 acres at the City. He was a native of Minnisink, on the Delaware, where he had a grist-mill, and furnished the Revolutionary army with flour. He had a black boy in his service, and sent him one day with an ox-team with flour for the soldiers, when he was waylaid by the Indians and shot at. They cut out the tongues of the oxen and left them to perish, but the boy escaped and fled home.

After the war, he was settled for some time near the mouth of the Tunkhannock, whence he came to Clifford. In 1807, he owned the half of a grist-mill near the present site of McAlla's. His first mill had been destroyed by a freshet; Asahel Norton

was his partner in putting up the second, which was also carried off in a similar manner, before 1813. He built a house with a sloping roof and well-guarded porch, and was then living in it; it is now occupied by Mrs. McAlla.

He sold his farm to Lemuel Norton and Horace Phelps, and moved to the flat where James Decker now lives, about a mile above Clifford Corners, and where Mrs. Wells died February, 1831, aged sixty-nine years. They had thirteen children—five sons and eight daughters. Three of the sons, John, William, and Eliphalet settled in Clifford.

James W. died June, 1839, aged eighty-nine, at the residence of his son Eliphalet, on the Collar road, where D. J. Jones now lives. His oldest son, John, was married November, 1813, to Anna Maria, daughter of Adam Miller, and moved to the place where Charles Stevens now is, west of the City; and, fifteen years later, to the farm where his widow still resides, near the base of Elk Mountain. He died December, 1843, in his fifty-fifth year. Of their eleven children, ten lived to adult age.

Adam Wells died six years ago, aged fifty-four, of black fever; and Jesse, another son, with six of his family, died of the same disease in the course of a few weeks. Eliphalet, another son, is in California; Charles and James are in Clifford. A son of Adam Wells is a merchant at the City. To the annalist it is interesting to find the descendants of a worthy pioneer remaining in the vicinity where he labored for their benefit.

Matthew Newton came from Connecticut in 1806 with his wife, daughter, and five sons—Henry, Matthew, Benjamin, Isaac, and Thomas. He bought the first improvements of Jonathan Burns. Newton Pond commemorates the name of this family.

Matthew Newton, Jr., manufactured all the wheels used by the first settlers in spinning wool or flax. Erastus West succeeded him in the business, but moved into New York State over fifty years ago.

From 1806 to 1811, we have no certain data, except that Epaphras Thompson, a Baptist minister, became a resident. The year 1812 is spoken of as "a religious time."

Ransford Smith settled near the forks of the Lackawanna, just above Stillwater Pond. His sons were Ladon, Ransford, Benjamin, Samuel, and Philander.

A large number of new-comers appear upon the tax-list of 1813; among them were the Deckers, Buchanans, Collars, Halsteads, B. Millard from Lenox, Richard Meredith, James Reeves, Leonard Rought, Joel and Jacob Stevens, Urbane Shepherd, the Taylors, etc.

The Clifford and Wilkes-Barre turnpike was begun this year. A road was granted from James Reeves' to Joseph Sweet's.

The heaviest tax-payers within the present limits of Clifford

were Amos Harding, Adam Miller, Lemuel Norton, Wm. A. Morse, and Joel Stevens. The last named was a clothier.

In 1814, L. Norton had a grist-mill at the City; and a road was granted from the mill to I. Rynearson's in Lenox. J. Doud had also a mill on the east branch of the Tunkhannock, four miles west of Dundaff.

Richard Meredith was the first person who applied for naturalization in Susquehanna County. He was born in the parish of Bubourn, County of Kent, England, July, 1773; sailed from Liverpool, June, 1808, and landed in New York the September following. His application to the court was made January, 1814; but it does not appear that he received his papers until February, 1822.

James Coyle, farmer and drover, first appears on the tax-list for 1814, also James Coyle, Jr., and George Coyle (or *Coil*, as the family write the name); Calvin and Luther Daly, and William Upton. James C. bought out Albigenice Bucklin, whose log-house, the first dwelling in Dundaff, was opposite the late residence of Dr. Terbell. A burying-ground was in the rear. In August, 1816, James Coil, Jr., bought of J. B. Wallace lands which the latter had bought one month earlier of the Marshal of the State, and which had been patented October, 1800, to David H. Conyngham, and surveyed on warrants of 1774, in the name of Samuel Meredith. J. B. Wallace sold at the same time lots numbered 20-22, 33, and 34, to C. and L. Dailey, A. Bucklin, J. Hancock, and Daniel Taylor; also to Redmond Conyngham, who sold to Wm. A. Morse 100 acres adjoining C. Dailey's, and which was transferred (with 100 acres from Dailey) December, 1817, to A. Dimock, Jr., and afterwards to N. Callender.

Elnathan and Ebenezer Baker were located at the City in 1814.

Ellery Crandall came from Hopkinton, R. I., in 1815, and still lives where he first located. Elias Burdick and his nephews, Thomas, and Billings B., also came from R. I.; Simeon, their brother, came the next year, and remained in Clifford until his death, December, 1870, in the eighty-second year of his age. The sons of Elias are Luther, Stephen, Elisha, and Caleb.

In 1816, Ezra Lewis came to the old farm of Amos Morse. John Westgate, who came from Rhode Island to Mt. Pleasant, this year, reached Clifford in 1817, and is now living, over eighty years of age, about three miles northeast of Dundaff. In 1817, the elections were held at the house of James Wells.

In 1818, Asher Peck, with his wife and one child, came from New London County, Conn. He is still living on the farm where he first settled.

Early in 1818, John Alworth purchased the grist-mill of L. Norton; Nathan Callender had an interest in a saw-mill transferred from Millard and Buchanan; John Doud had a mill

transferred from Calvin Daly. James Green, Reuben Arnold, Lawton Gardner, Peter Rynearson, George Brownwell, Nathaniel Cotteral, Asa Dimock and sons Asa and Warren, and Philip J. Stewart from the Corners, in Herrick, and other new names, appear on the tax-list for the first time. Benjamin Brownwell and Joseph Berry were also here.

Asa Dimock had a store at what is now Dundaff, and Warren D. kept a tavern opposite. The latter was opened by James Coil, and is the back part of the hotel which was years afterwards finished by G. Phinney. Horace G. and Austin Phelps had a carding-mill at the City.

A road was then being cut out past Crystal Lake.

Nathaniel Cotteral married a daughter of Jonathan Burns, and was located near the lake that bears his name. He removed to Providence, Luzerne County, where he died three or four years since.

Peter Graham's purchase of over 500 acres was made in 1819. He was a merchant in Philadelphia, and spent only his summers in Dundaff. The place is now occupied by his son George. Peter Campbell, a Scotchman, had charge of the farm, and was a permanent resident.

Redmond Conyngham made additional purchases in 1819; and in 1820, laid out the village named by him Dundaff, in honor of Lord Dundaff of Scotland.

On the 4th of July of that year, the national anniversary was celebrated here by the new-comers, and Geo. Haines, Esq., gave this toast: "*May the pleasant hills of Dundaff become the seat of justice.*" In the fall of 1820, a newspaper styled 'The Pennsylvanian' was ostensibly published at Dundaff, but in reality at Montrose, during the excitement of a political campaign.

Redmond C. was an elder brother of the late Hon. John N. Conyngham of Wilkes-Barre, and represented Luzerne and Susquehanna in the State Senate about fifty years ago.

From the fact that the Milford and Owego turnpike passed through Dundaff, and from the inducements offered by Mr. Conyngham, the place began to attract settlers rapidly.

He dug a cellar and a well on a knoll overlooking the lake and present borough, but it does not appear he ever built a house and resided here. He owned a grist-mill here in 1820.

John and Peter Rivenburg were also here at that time.

In 1821, the first physician, Henry Burnham, came and remained a year or two. Previously, Dr. Giddings practiced, coming from another county.

Jacob Bedford was the first hatter in the place.

Samuel Davis, a blacksmith; Stephen Lampson, a carpenter; William Tinker, Samuel Woodruff, and Elias Bell were new arrivals.

In 1822, Col. Gould Phinney bought several farms in the township. R. Conyngham bought the Lake farm. James Coil sold land to both these parties, at a later date.

Isaac Truesdell (Truesdale?) was on the western slope of Elk Mountain—the first settler there. Martin Decker was on the flat now occupied by J. C. Decker.

James Rolles came the same year. He had twenty-two children, of whom the eldest, James, now resides on the eastern slope of Elk Mountain.

In 1823, Phelps and Phinney owned enterprises at the City, which had not then a thought of being outdone by the new settlement at Dundaff, and was styled *Phinneyton*.

Kendall Burdick, a brother of Elias, came in 1824; and died in Clifford, March, 1871, aged ninety-three.

March, 1824, Col. Gould Phinney came with fourteen others from Wyoming Valley, and settled in Dundaff. Charles Wells arrived the following April, and at first kept store for Col. P., but afterwards independently many years. Before this time there were but three dwellings, with a school-house and hat-shop, in the place. Nathan H. Lyons had a distillery. Geo. W. Healy, merchant; C. B. Merrick, physician; John Wells, Robert Arnet, Ebenezer Brown, miller; Benjamin Ayres, stage proprietor; and Archippus Parrish, were among the new-comers. Mr. Parrish took charge of the Dundaff Hotel. Col. Phinney at this time had a grist and a saw-mill, a blacksmith and wagon shop, and a store in Dundaff; also an interest in a line of stages, and a farm, and gave employment to many. In 1825, he started a bank, and transferred his store to Joseph Arnold. A public toast, July 4th, 1825, at Dundaff, in reference to this and to the failure of the old Silver Lake Bank, was: "*Fifty per cent. discount—Experience has taught us that silver is too heavy a metal to swim on Silver Lake—May the NORTHERN BANK be established on more permanent foundation.*"

DILTON YARRINGTON came to Dundaff in 1825. He was born at Wilkes-Barre, in 1803. His father, Peter Y., was a blacksmith, but, in early life, had been an agent for Matthias Hollenback in trading with the Indians in the vicinity of Tioga Point, at which time he was taken captive by them. He was retained about four years, between Cayuga and Seneca Lakes, before he could make his escape. Abel Yarrington, grandfather of Dilton Y., came to Wyoming from Stonington, Connecticut, in 1772, with his wife and three children; Lucinda, afterwards Mrs. Arnold Colt, John, and Peter, then two years old. Abel Y. had the first regular public house, and the first ferry at Wilkes-Barre. On the day of the massacre, July 3, 1778, the leading men, in anticipation of an engagement with hostile forces, agreed that Mr. Y. should remain at the ferry, to facilitate a retreat if necessary. In the disaster that followed, he ferried many persons over, who fled eastward, and remained at his post until the Indians were in sight, and their shots skimming the water by the side of the scow or flat; he then was obliged to turn a deaf ear to the entreaties of those on shore, and, taking in his family, escaped down the river. He was in Wyoming again in 1780, if not sooner; was a strong

believer in the rights of Connecticut claimants to Wyoming; and one of the volunteers who went from Wilkes-Barre to suppress the "Whisky Rebellion."

The experiences of both his father and grandfather left their influence upon Dilton. In 1816, he began learning his trade with his father, and for thirty years he worked in a blacksmith shop. On the last day of February, 1825, he walked from his father's (one mile below the court-house in Wilkes-Barre) to Dundaff—thirty-seven miles—arriving before dark. Where Carbondale now is, there was then a thick laurel swamp. The next year he was employed by Gould Phinney at blacksmithing, but in 1826 set up business for himself. In 1827, he was married; and in 1828 built the house he occupied until 1842 (lately vacated by Thomas Arnold), and then built on the lot next above. He says:—

"Christmas, 1825, I ran a race on skates, on Crystal Lake, with Benajah P. Bailey, for \$10 a side. I took the stakes; distance one mile from north to south corners—I ran it in 2 minutes and 33 seconds. I then ran one-fourth of a mile with Gould Phinney for \$20 a side. Judges decided that he was half way when I was out. At the end of the last race, I jumped fifteen feet, six inches, on skates. The ice was smooth and the day pleasant; and, as word had been sent out to neighboring towns, there were more than 500 people there to see the race."

In 1835, D. Yarrington was appointed justice of the peace by Gov. Wolf, and held the office until he was elected, under the new constitution, for five years following 1842.

He assisted in forming the first temperance society in Dundaff, and also the anti-slavery society, when both organizations excited the strong aversion of a majority of the community.

He removed to Carbondale in 1847, where, with two sons, he still resides.

Dr. William Terbell came to Dundaff in 1825 or '6, and built just below Gould Phinney, on the hill near the Presbyterian church. He removed to Corning in 1837.

The following persons, it is said, were then residents: Woodbury S. Wilbur, Stephen Lampson, Wm. Wells, carpenters; Benajah P. Bailey, tanner and currier; Samuel Davis and David Pease, blacksmiths; Alex. C. Shafer and Hugh Fell, wagon-makers; Ezra Stuart, shoemaker; Oliver Daniels, cooper; Lyman C. Hines; Earl Wheeler, Lawyer; Charles Thompson, Presbyterian minister; Joseph B. Slocum, tinner; in 1827, Matthias Button, physician; Isaiah Mapes, merchant; Thomas Wells, justice of the peace; and Nathan Daniels. This year the "Northern Bank of Pennsylvania," suspended operations.

Sylvester Johnson and Sanford Robertson, merchants; Jonathan Stage, John Bennet, and Thomas Burch, farmers, were here in 1828.

Pickerel were then brought from Tunkhannock to stock the lakes.

Several who had been in business at the City removed to Dundaff, and among them the Phelps family, of whom there were eventually seven brothers here, originally from Connecticut. Horace G., a merchant, went to Corning in 1836, and died but recently. Alexander C. is a physician in Abington; Jaman H. was a tanner and currier at Dundaff in 1828, now of Scranton;

Edward died at D. in 1836; Norman, now a farmer in Abington; John Jay, recently a banker in New York, but now deceased; and Sherman D., who removed in 1830, and has since resided in Binghamton, N. Y.

On the 5th of March, 1828, Dundaff was incorporated a borough, one mile square.

A few days previous, Sloane Hamilton, formerly a teacher at Montrose, established the 'Dundaff Republican'—a "political, literary, moral, and religious mirror," the subscription list of Elder D. Dimock's 'Mirror' being transferred in part to this. Controversy was excluded, but the strong religious sentiment then prevailing demanded religious intelligence. Mr. H. was joined by Earl Wheeler, April, 1831, but in March, 1832, the paper passed into the hands of Amzi Wilson, who changed the name to 'Northern Pennsylvanian;' and in December, removed the establishment to Carbondale, which place was then thought about to become a great city.

In 1829, if not earlier, another physician, Joseph Falkner, arrived. He died in 1843 or '4.

Nathan Callender died in 1830, and at this time Benjamin Ayres kept the tavern of which Mr. C. had been proprietor at an early day. When Mr. C. left it, he built opposite the banking house—which since 1832 has been the residence of Thomas P. Phinney, Esq.

James Chambers came in this year, and Wm. H. Slocum, wagon-maker.

B. Ayres afterwards kept the hotel near Crystal Lake; the present house was built by Peter Campbell.

Dr. Wm. S. Gritman came in 1830, and left in 1836. Dr. Thomas Halsey was also one of the temporary residents. Dr. Merrick died in the place. Dr. Johnson Olmstead has been a resident and practicing physician for more than twenty years.

There were at least three taverns in Clifford in 1830, and four more applicants for licenses which were probably obtained; these were all or principally located on the line of the Milford and Owego turnpike. This great thoroughfare, which contributed so much to the business activity of Dundaff and Clifford, has ceased to be a wonder, but it shows the enterprise and *endurance* our fathers possessed.

A convention was held at Dundaff, February 22, 1830, in favor of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company. The delegates were among the most prominent men of the county.

The company had been complained of as obstructing navigation by placing dams in the Delaware and Lackawaxen, and as being unwilling to open the canal to the public. The subject was one of intense interest to all classes of our citizens. There had been resolutions, in various quarters, in favor of memorializ-

ing the legislature against the company; but at a meeting held in Montrose on the 1st of February, 1830, other resolutions were unanimously adopted *against* memorializing, and in favor of the canal, which, it was believed, would be a great benefit to Wayne, Pike, Susquehanna, Bradford, and Luzerne Counties.

The meeting on the 23d February, 1830, also passed resolutions in agreement with this. The final report of the committee before the legislature exonerated the company from blame, without a dissenting voice.

In 1831, Phelps, Phinney & Co. established a glass factory at Dundaff. The glass blown here was said to be of an excellent quality.

The Dundaff Academy was established in 1833. Six years later, Hon. A. H. Read procured \$2000 from the State in aid of the institution. The building, still standing, never had any architectural beauty, but it had a praiseworthy influence in another and a better way, and associations cling around it which are recalled by many with pleasure. Revs. E. O. Ward and E. Allen, and Miss Farrar, were among the first teachers.

In 1837 a military convention was held here, which attracted considerable attention. At an early day, there had been two companies, commanded by Captains James Wells and James Coil.

Dundaff had high aspirations, as appears by the toast given July 4th, 1820; but in 1836 they began to yield to the claims of Carbondale, which was the proposed seat of justice of a county to be carved out of Luzerne, and the townships of Clifford, Herrick, and Lenox of Susquehanna County.

In 1838-9 there were renewed petitions for a division of the county, indicating the tendency of the people to unite with Luzerne; and it cannot be denied but that the natural features of the section justified them. Had their wish prevailed over that of the central and western portions of the county, the result could not have been more depressing to the enterprise of Dundaff than it has been by their remaining.

To the tourist and summer visitor, Dundaff and vicinity have great attraction. A steamboat costing \$3000 has been placed upon Crystal Lake, and a commodious hotel has been erected.

There are other points of interest within easy access, the chief of which is Prospect Rock. If one does not care to climb so high an elevation, a short ride to the school-house in Marsh District will furnish a delightful view about eighty miles in extent.

As late as 1867, a deer was killed at Stillwater Pond, by Wm. Hartley, Esq., the head of which, an unusually fine one, he stuffed, and with its branching antlers, it now ornaments the hall of his residence in Lenox.

RELIGIOUS.

The Presbyterian church received its charter from the Supreme Court in 1830. The edifice had been occupied about two years. Rev. Wm. Adams was then the pastor. The church was self-supporting from 1834 to 1844, had able ministers, and over sixty members, of whom but very few remain in the place.

The Baptist society is the oldest in the township, dating from about 1802, when the Rev. E. Thompson officiated as a missionary, near Clifford Corners. Elder Charles Miller was pastor of this church, and died here in 1865, aged seventy-two. He was succeeded by his son, Elder Wm. Miller. A Baptist church was built at the City in 1855. The "Seventh Day" Baptists have a church in the Burdick settlement.

"St. John's Chapel" (Episcopal) in 1835, was the former billiard-room of Col. Phinney. The edifice in which they now worship was not erected until within the last ten or twelve years.

The Methodists have a church at Dundaff, and another (Union?) at Clifford Corners. Including the Welsh church, there are eight houses of worship in the township.

In the cemetery at Clifford Corners are the graves of the following residents for a long period of time in the vicinity: Rev. Wm. Wells, born in 1790, died in 1857; John Alworth, aged 83; Roger Orvis, 81, and his widow, 87; Artemas Baker, 73; James Greene, 72; David Smith, 76, and his widow, 93; Peter Rivenburgh, 66; Stephen Hodgdon, 63; and Geo. Brownell, who died in 1869.

THE WELSH SETTLEMENT.

The slopes of Elk Mountain were not, in general, cultivated before the accession of the Welsh to the population of Clifford.

The pioneer among them was Thomas Watkins, a native of Carmarthenshire, South Wales. He left that country about 1830, and in 1832 came from Carbondale and bought a piece of wild land at the base of South Peak, but still well up on the mountain from the City on the Tunkhannock—its real southern base. All around him was a dense forest, mostly of hemlock. Here Mr. and Mrs W. resided, without the society of their countrymen, two years.

In 1834, Zacharias Jenkins, Daniel Moses, David Anthony, David Rees, William P. Davis, Rev. Thomas Edwards, David Edwards, and Robert Ellis, with their families, settled around him.

Mr. Ellis, a native of North Wales, had been in America several years, and came from New York, with the others, to Clifford. He located on the Collar road, which connects the Newburgh with the Milford and Owego turnpike;—along which several small openings had been made. His widow and son, Robert E., Jr., still occupy the old place, near the head of Long Pond.

With the exception of Mr. E., the party of immigrants were from South Wales. They left their native country May 21st, 1834, from Swansea, in a brig bound for Quebec. The vessel was only of 200 tons burden, not much larger than a canal-boat. There were on board, the captain and five sailors, with thirty-four passengers. Most of the latter were religious people—Dissenters—now “coming to a country where they could be freed from paying tithes and supporting a church they did not believe in.” They held religious meetings on board the ship, and as they had cross-winds the greater part of their voyage, they were seven weeks on the water before landing at Quebec. Three families among the passengers remained in Canada; the others came to Clifford.

Zacharias Jenkins settled east of Long Pond, where Samuel Owens now lives. He was accompanied by his son Evan, who married a daughter of Wm. P. Davis, and has since removed to a farm near the line of Gibson. Ann, a daughter of Z. J., was the first person buried in the Welsh settlement.

For many years the families endured all the hardships of pioneers, often carrying heavy burdens to mills, and from Carbondale, twelve miles distant. The few cows they owned browsed in the woods during the summer season, and as they often failed to come home at night, their owners were obliged to hunt them up, and they were often lost in the woods.

Mr. Jenkins, when sixty-seven years of age, was lost in a swamp near Mud Pond. Night overtook him, and, as wolves in great numbers, and an occasional bear or panther, roved through the woods, he climbed a tall pine for safety. Here he remained through the night, the wolves howling around him. In the morning, he followed the outlet of the pond through water and thickets, until he came to the Milford and Owego turnpike within one mile of where Lonsdale now is. When asked how he spent the night, he replied, “Happy, praying and singing most of the time.” He is remembered as “an excellent singer and a good christian.”

Thomas Watkins cleared a large farm and remained in Clifford until his death, May, 1870, at the age of sixty-seven. He was a worthy and much esteemed citizen. His widow resides with their son Watkin, on the old homestead; another son, John, is near by.

Most of those who were heads of families among the first party are dead.

The second party of immigrants came soon after, but they had been located at Carbondale two or three years previously. Among them were David J. and David E. Thomas, Evan Jones (from North Wales), Job Nicholas, John Michael, and others.

Like the New England Pilgrims, the first care of this people

was provision for their spiritual and educational needs. The church was organized the same year, 1834. Thomas Edwards, their first pastor, remained among them until the close of 1835, when he accepted a call to Pittsburg.

In 1836, Rev. Jenkin Jenkins, son of Zacharias, who preceded his father in coming to America, finished his studies at Auburn Theological Seminary, N. Y., and took charge of the Presbyterian church at Dundaff, and also of the Welsh church at the settlement. He preached to both churches nearly seven years, and then moved to Illinois. He is now in Minnesota.

Henry Davis, a native of Glanmorganshire, South Wales, left the old country about the same time as Mr. Watkins, but did not follow him from Carbondale, until 1836; when he came to the farm adjoining his, on the western slope of Elk Mountain.

In 1839, the first church edifice was built. After several years it was found inadequate to the accommodation of the increasing settlement, and about 1856, the present neat structure, with a spire, was erected.

Rev. Samuel Williams succeeded Mr. Jenkins in the pastorate, remaining about two years. He is now in the Middletown settlement.

They often held meetings with Americans who were religious, though neither could understand the language of the other. Some prayed in Welsh, others in English, and both sang the same tune together, each using their own language in hymns of the same meter, while the Holy Spirit communicated its influence from soul to soul, until sometimes all present would be in tears.

In 1850, Rev. Daniel Daniels became pastor of the church, and is still retained in its service. His charge includes also the Welsh families of Gibson and Herrick.

In Clifford there are forty-two Welsh families, though there are in all but twenty-two family names; and what is still more remarkable, there are but six additional names in the entire settlement, which extends in the townships mentioned above, and includes seventy-five families.

An emotional and poetical people, the Welsh are still eminently practical, and are possessed of much stability. Their character reflects the features of their native land, whose rugged fastnesses are linked with heroism and song. Temperate, industrious, and honest, they constitute a most desirable class in a community.

CHAPTER XXVI.

LATHROP.

THIS is the central township on the southern line of Susquehanna County. It was taken from Brooklyn April, 1846.

The names given to this section, while it was a part of Luzerne, were: Tioga, Nicholson, and Bridgewater. Soon after the organization of Susquehanna County, it formed a part of the new township of Waterford, and shared its several names, until formed into an independant township, named in honor of Benjamin Lathrop, Associate Judge of the county.

The north line of Lathrop crosses six well-traveled roads, one of which—the Abington and Waterford turnpike—for many years, subsequent to 1823, was the great thoroughfare of the township. Two other roads, as well as this, traverse the entire length of Lathrop, besides the Delaware, Lackawana and Western Railroad, which follows Martin's Creek on the east side—the tract set off April, 1853, from Lenox. Prior to this date the creek had been the boundary line. The railroad crosses the county line near the house of H. P. Halstead, about half a mile above the village of Nicholson.

Horton's and Martin's Creeks drain the township, passing through it from north to south. Tarbell's, Lord's, and a part of Field's pond—the only ones larger than mill-ponds—are still small sheets of water. The outlets of the first two are tributary to Horton's Creek. The valley of Martin's Creek is a narrow deep gorge, barely wide enough for a carriage road on the west side, and for the railroad on the other; and comparatively few of the population are located on it below the village of Hopbottom.

So far as can be ascertained, the present area of Lathrop, in the spring of 1799, had but one human inhabitant—a hermit by the name of Sprague. Charles Miner, writing of this individual and of his own experiences in 1799, said:—

“Four or five miles below Captain Chapman (then living on C. M. Chapman's present place, in Brooklyn) lived in solitude Joseph Sprague, twelve or fourteen miles of wilderness intervening between him and Marcy's mill in the settlement on the Tunkhannock.

“Having made sugar with Sprague on shares, I took a horse load down the Tunkhannock, peddled it out, a pound of sugar for a pound of pork, seven and a half pounds for a bushel of wheat, five pounds for a bushel of corn. Saw the Susquehanna, got a grist ground, returned, and with Mr. Chase¹

¹ A young man who came from Connecticut with Mr. Miner.

made knapsacks of coarse shirts, filled them with provisions, and each taking an ax on his shoulder, we took the bridle path by Mr. Parke's, and thence fifteen miles more or less—arrived at Rindaw or Hyde's, at the forks of the Wyalusing. I do not think a line drawn due south from Binghamton to the Tunkhannock—near forty miles—would have cut out a laid-out road, or come in sight of a house or cabin of an earlier date than the preceding summer."

During the last illness of "the hermit," in Wilkes-Barre, several years later, he willed his land to Mr. Blanchard—the gentleman who took care of him. Afterwards there was trouble between Mr. Blanchard and those who held themselves to be the rightful heirs to the property, on the plea that the testator was incapable of making a will uninfluenced, or that he was not in a proper state of mind. The place was for a long time occupied by one of these heirs, but was finally sold at auction (300 acres constituting the estate), when it was bought by an association of gentlemen, who sold to John Chapman. It is now owned and occupied by Dr. Samuel Wright, and the location is called the "Five Corners;" it is on the west side of Martin's Creek, just above the Hopbottom Depot. It is said that Sprague was the son of a surveyor to whom the land was promised by a Philadelphia landholder, in case of its occupancy by himself or family.

In the fall of 1799, Captain Charles Gere came from Vermont with others who joined the Hopbottom settlement. This extended over the present area of Brooklyn, the southeast corner of Dimock, and the northern part of Lathrop. He began his clearing on the place now owned by John Lord, on the Abington and Waterford turnpike; but did not bring in his family until 1801. After a year or two all removed north of the present line of Lathrop, one mile west of Mack's corners.

In 1801, John S. Tarbell (an uncle of J. S. Tarbell, of Montrose) was on the farm afterwards known as Mitchell's Meadows. Tarbell's Pond received its name from him. He removed in 1816 or 1817.

Josiah Lord came from Lyme, Connecticut, in 1801, to look for land, and in 1802, having purchased the improvement of Captain Gere, brought his family, including four sons—Josiah, Elisha, John, and Enoch. Mr. Lord and Mr. Tarbell were then the only settlers between the north line of the present township and Horton's mill, below Susquehanna County. Mr. Sprague lived two and a half miles due east of Mr. Lord. The latter remained on his first location (now occupied by his grandson, John Lord, Jr.) until his death, in 1845, at the age of 78.

His sons settled on what is now the Abington and Waterford turnpike; Enoch made the first improvement at Tarbell's Pond, and built a saw-mill there in 1820. The place is now known as Lakeside.

(The improvement of J. Silvius was not made until 1835.)

The following, with some additional details, was written by John Lord, Sr., in the summer of 1856:—

“My father, Josiah Lord, located with his family¹ in what is now called Lathrop township, in 1801. There was but one family then in Lathrop, and only six in what is now called Brooklyn. There is but one man of my acquaintance now living, who was here and had a family when I came here, and he is Captain Amos Bailey.

“About the 1st of April, 1803, my father was absent from home, leaving me and my brother Elisha to attend to the cattle, which had gone up a small creek into the woods. A little before sunset they came into the clearing on the run, and turned around and looked back, with heads up, as if they were much frightened. As one of the cows did not come, we went in search of her, hunted until dark, but in vain. In the morning we renewed our search, and found her between two logs. She was thrown upon her back, her horns stuck in the ground; the jugular veins were gnawed in two, and her flanks ripped open. Nothing of her calf was to be found but one of the hoofs and a part of the skull.

“My father procured a large double-springed, spike-joined bear-trap, set it by the cow and covered it with dirt. It had been undisturbed for a week, when father took up the trap and brought it to the house. The next day my brother and I found that the cow had been torn to pieces by the wolves. My brother then said, a German hunter had told him father did not set the trap right. He added a proposal to me to help him set it according to the hunter's directions, and, said he, ‘we will have one of the wolves before father comes home.’ We collected all the fragments of the old cow in a pile against a log, and then went home for the trap. We knew mother would not let us set it, if she suspected our plan, so my brother left me outside the house while he went in, agreeing to whistle ‘Yankee Doodle’ when mother's attention should be so engaged she would not be likely to see me bear off the trap. I waited some time for the signal, but on hearing it I shouldered the trap and ran for the woods. When I got there I was very much exhausted, as the trap was very heavy. My brother soon came with an ax, and we set the trap with two large hand-spikes, and deposited it in the water in front of the bait. The trap was two inches under water, and the pan we covered with moss. The bait we covered with logs in such a way that the wolves could not get access to it without going into the trap.

About 2 o'clock the next morning we were waked up by a sudden yell of the wolves, and they yelled without intermission until daylight. We got up an hour before daylight to run some balls. My brother then told mother we had set the trap and had got a wolf in it, and were going to kill it. She was much frightened, and used every means, except force, to prevent us from going into the woods until father's return; but the prospect of revenge upon the wolves for killing the cow—decidedly the best old mully of our three—carried our minds above every other consideration, and we started off so early that my brother said he could not see the sights of his rifle, and we sat down on a log to wait until it should be lighter. I was ten years old the February preceding, and my brother was not quite twelve. My brother had killed several deer, and was a good shot with a rifle. I had never shot one.

“The wolves continued howling, the fine yelp of the pups increasing the roar which seemed to shake the earth like thunder. I was seized with a sudden impulse of fear. I remembered reading that some children who had disobeyed their parents went into the woods to play, and God gave them up to bears which devoured them. I had disobeyed my kind mother for the first time, and my conscience smote me. We had left her in sobs and tears, and were in a dark wilderness with a gang of wolves. Suddenly they were

¹ The family, it is believed, were not here until 1802, at the earliest.

still, and I expected they were surrounding us. Every sin that ever I committed rushed into my mind, and I felt a true sense of my meanness. Just then my brother rose and said, 'Come, it is light enough now to commence the battle.' With much difficulty I succeeded in rising, but my legs utterly refused to carry me toward the scene of danger. Concealing my cowardice as much as possible, I said the wolf had got out of the trap, and we had better go back and relieve mother of her fright. But he said, 'No, we have got one fast, I want you to go very still, for I want to get a shot at one that is not in the trap; first, and if I do, you may shoot the one in the trap.' This was a grand idea; I thought no more about the bear story, or about mother, or any of my rascally capers, and my fear all left me. Moving on, we were soon in plain view of where we set the trap. We lay in ambush some time, but as no wolves were to be seen we went to the bait, and the trap was gone! There were tufts of hair and plenty of blood, and the ground was torn up. The track of the wolf was plain and we followed it up the creek about ten rods, when, as we turned around a short curve in the creek, a gang of wolves started and ran up the bank, too swift for my brother to shoot with success. The wolf with the trap started at the same time and ran up the creek, and we followed after, about thirty rods, when we could not find the track further; but as a log there reached from one bank to another, my brother told me to go on the whole length of the log, and find where the wolf got over. Near the further bank a beech tree with the leaves on had fallen the summer before, and made a thick brush heap on and below the log. In getting through this brush I slipped from the log. My bare feet—shoes were not fashionable for boys in those days—felt the soft fur of the wolf and the flinch under them, at the same instant I heard the trap rattle; one bound brought me out of the brush, and I exclaimed, 'Here is the wolf hid under the brush!' My brother was looking at me with a grin, and replied, 'I thought you had found something by the way you jumped?' He told me to stand back, and, as he fired the wolf gave a growl and commenced a violent struggle. He then told me to go above the log and keep the wolf from getting through under the log, until he could load his rifle. She had got her head through, but could get no further. The ball had passed through the wolf's mouth, and some of the teeth were hanging out. My brother came over the log, and told me to get behind a tree, for in his hurry he had put his powder horn to the muzzle of his rifle and poured in the powder by guess, and he did not know what it might do, for he would let it all go together. I told him to smash away. He let fly, and I saw the wolf's ear lop down. It was the most deafening report of a rifle I ever heard. I went towards the wolf's head and found the ball had gone through it; some of the brain was protruding from the ball-hole. We then went below the log and drew out the wolf—the largest one I ever saw.

"At this juncture we heard mother scream. She seemed to be coming in the woods towards us. We answered her, but she made so much noise herself—screaming every breath, as on she came, like a raving maniac—she could not hear, and did not see us, though we ran to meet her, until we were close to her. She then sat down on a log, and oh, what a picture of fright! In running through a laurel thicket she had scratched her face so that it bled in several places, and she was as pale as a corpse. Her combs had been pulled out and lost, and her long hair was streaming in every direction; she tried to arrange it, but her hands trembled so she could not do it, and it was some time before she could speak."

John Lord, Jr., in transmitting the above, adds:—

"Father was very feeble when he wrote it, and died without finishing it, August, 1856. I have often heard him tell this story. He and his brother dragged home the wolf, and their mother carried home the gun. Father and

uncle afterwards captured a young bear, took him home alive, and kept him for some time; but he made his escape by gnawing off the rope with which he was tied."

In the fall of 1803, Barnard Worthing came from Vermont and purchased an improvement—the Abel Green farm—and returned. Two of his sons came in soon after to make preparations for the family's arrival in the fall of 1804; but they spent the following winter with Sargent Tewksbury, in Brooklyn. In the spring of 1805 they moved into their own house on the farm just mentioned, and which is now occupied by C. R. Bailey and G. C. Bronson. (It belonged to the Drinker estate, and at the time of the erection of Lathrop, was occupied by Francis Perkins, the first constable of the new township.) Barnard Worthing and son Jacob were interested in Paine's cotton factory in Brooklyn. Mr. W. was an Episcopalian in sentiment, but his family were active Methodists.

Anthony Wright came from Somers, Connecticut, in 1809, to the first farm above Sprague's place, which was then occupied by Ira Sweatland, one of the claimants previously mentioned. A granddaughter of Anthony Wright (Mrs. William Squiers¹) now lives on the farm he occupied for forty-eight years. He died December, 1857, in his 74th year. He was a prominent Methodist. His brothers, Wise and Samuel, settled in Brooklyn. Their father, Captain Samuel Wright, a Presbyterian, came to Lathrop some time later, and went into the woods a mile west of Hopbottom, where he cleared a farm. He died in 1835.

The sons of Anthony Wright were Loren and Samuel; the latter has been a botanic physician for more than twenty-five years.

In 1811, Elisha Smith and Noah Pratt (with families) settled on Horton's Creek, below Josiah Lord.

In 1812, Levi Phelps cleared the farm now occupied by Reuben Squiers, near the junction of the outlet of Tarbell's Pond with Horton's Creek.

Bela Case had come to what is now Brooklyn, as early as 1810, but afterwards removed to the present location of Hopbottom Depot. It is said a man by the name of Jason Webster had been there before him. He was from New York, but he soon returned and died. Orson, son of Bela Case, remained at H.

William Squiers (father of Mrs. Dr. Wright) came from Westfield, Vermont, in the fall of 1816, to the farm now occupied by A. Sterling, near the north line of Lathrop (then Waterford), on the first road east of Horton's Creek. About 1826, he went to the farm cleared by Phelps, where he died May, 1865, in his

¹ William Squiers is a son of Arey Squiers—a Springville family not related to William Squiers the early settler of Lathrop.

78th year. He had nine children. He was an active Presbyterian, and was a constant attendant upon the meetings held at Brooklyn Center, though he resided in the south part of Lathrop nearly forty years.

Joshua Jackson and Joseph Fisk came from Vermont with their families about the same time as Mr. Squiers. Mr. Fisk settled near the first location of Mr. S. He moved some years later to Springville, at what is now called Niven P. O., but previously "Fisk's Corners." He became a Mormon, and left the county to join the "Latter Day Saints" in the West.

Mr. Jackson (commonly styled deacon) settled above the township line; but his sons, Joshua, Joseph, and Caleb, settled in Lathrop. They are said to have been great choppers. Their father died September, 1842, aged 80.

Henry Mitchell came, in 1816, to the place previously occupied by J. S. Tarbell—a flat where two creeks empty into Horton's Creek within a short distance of each other—since called "Mitchell's Meadows," and recently "the Searle farm."

Ephraim Tewksbury and sons, Asa and Isaac, came to this section the same year. He died many years ago in Lathrop; Asa died at Hopbottom January, 1871, aged seventy-four and a half years.

Isaac Brown was here early.

The first justices of the peace in Lathrop were Geo. L. Tewksbury and Ezra S. Brown; Isaac S. Tewksbury, first town-clerk. There were about fifty taxables in the township in 1847. The present population is very nearly 1000.

There are at Hopbottom four stores, one hotel, two blacksmith-shops, one flouring-mill, one saw-mill, one tin-shop, and the station offices of the Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Railroad. The village is mostly on the east side of Martin's Creek, and its residents are principally descendants of the early settlers of Brooklyn and Lenox; the Bells, Merrills, etc., in addition to the families already mentioned.

The Good Templars have a hall, and an effective organization.

The early religious interests of Lathrop were identified with those of Brooklyn, the church-going people of the former either attending the churches of the latter, or worshipping in private houses and school-houses until late in 1870, when the first M. E. church at Hopbottom was dedicated—the first house of worship of any denomination within the limits of Lathrop. "On the day of dedication, December 15th, \$1800 were to be provided for after the infant society had done all it felt able to do;" but under the benign influences of the occasion, the entire sum was pledged, and the new church has auspiciously begun its history. The house, 35 by 50 feet, with bell and belfry, was built at a cost of \$3200.

"The elder brethren of the Conference, who traveled the Brooklyn Circuit in its earlier history, will remember the appointment at 'Anthony Wright's' on the Martin Creek. Well, this is the Wright appointment, and the faith which dwelt in 'Father Wright' is descending to the generations that bear his name."

One week later, December 28th, 1870, the conference of Susquehanna Association of Universalists met at Hopbottom, and dedicated another church edifice, rivaling the other in beauty. "It is 36 by 56 feet, with 22 feet posts, surmounted with a belfry and steeple nearly 100 feet high. The cost of the building was about \$5600. The windows are oval on the top, and of colored glass. The building is of wood, but the roof is covered with the best quality of slate. The front is ornamented with a large oval window, which lights the orchestra, and this is also of colored glass. The society of Universalists has been organized here but a short time, and already has the largest Sunday-school in the association." [Newspaper item.]

The second Methodist Episcopal Church of Lathrop was in the course of erection the same year, at Lake Side, near the center of the township; and was completed at a cost of \$2600, and dedicated February 16th, 1871. On that day the people were informed that \$1000 was needed to free the church from debt; and \$1100 was raised with help from friends in Nicholson.

The previous conference year had witnessed a large increase of membership to the Methodists of "the old Brooklyn circuit;" and the marked advance in church enterprise was doubtless in part due to this, as well as to the fact that the directors of school-districts were unwilling to have the school-houses opened for public worship any longer.

CHAPTER XXVII.

SPRINGVILLE.

AT the second term of court after the organization of the county, a petition was presented for a new township to be set off from the southern part of Bridgewater, but it was not until April, 1814, that Springville was "finally" confirmed by the court. Its northern limit was the five-mile-tree on the Wilkes-Barre turnpike south of Montrose, extending eastward to one-half a mile east of the Meshoppen. Waterford (including Lathrop and Brooklyn) was taken from Bridgewater at the same time,

and formed the eastern boundary of Springville, while Braintrim (changed to Auburn, same court) was the western, with the exception of a mile where Rush adjoined it. Eighteen years later, on the erection of Dimock township, the line of the latter was extended nearly a mile further north, and Springville was reduced to its present limits—about six miles on the county line by five miles north and south.

The township is well watered by two large branches of the Meshoppen and their tributaries, also by excellent springs. Its lakes are scarcely more than mill-ponds, the largest being Field's Pond in the southeast corner, crossed by the line of Lathrop. Its hills sloping to the waters of the Meshoppen are high, but present no peaks of special note. The soil is fertile, and the farms are in a high state of cultivation—perhaps there are none finer than those along the turnpike, which passes through the township from north to south. Rye, oats, and corn grow better than wheat. Great attention is given to the dairy.

The principal timber is beech, maple, hickory, bass-wood, and hemlock. There are a few elms, but no oaks.

At different periods since the erection of Susquehanna County, there has been more or less disquiet among the residents remote from the seat of justice, and those of Springville have been of the number. As early as 1839, the matter of annexing Springville and Auburn to portions of Luzerne and Bradford, to form a new county, with Skinner's Eddy for a county-seat, was openly agitated. Again, in 1842, it was only vigilance on the part of some, that prevented their loss to Susquehanna when Wyoming County was organized. To this day, there are those who contend that the township for half a mile within its southern border belongs, of right, to Wyoming, since the line dividing them, is the unrec-tified one of 1810-12. This should have been due east from Wyalusing Falls, and was so run by the surveyors going east; but the party from the east line of the county, on account of some variation understood by surveyors, failed to meet those from the west, being considerably south of them. The matter was finally compromised by making the line *not* "due east and west" as directed. This had so long been acquiesced in, and farms and town-arrangements were so well established in 1842, it was concluded best to make no changes.

The first clearing in the township of Springville was made near the site of the Presbyterian church, by Captain Jeremiah Spencer, either in 1800 or the previous fall, when he and his sons put in six acres of wheat. He had come in with his brother Samuel, and they had surveyed a township six miles square, which Oliver Ashley, of Connecticut, had bought of the Connecticut company, or of the State, for a half-bushel of silver dollars, and to which he gave the name of VICTORY. An irregular

township by this name appears on the map of Westmoreland. The southern line of Victory ran near Lynn P. O., and its whole area embraced much of what is now Springville, with a part of Auburn. The Spencers were originally from Claremont, New Hampshire, but had removed to Rensselaer County, New York, some years previous to 1800. The family came in 1801.

The wife of Captain S. was a sister of Judge Ashley. They had five daughters and two sons, Daniel and Francis. The latter was well educated for the times, and was the first postmaster in Springville (1815.) Daniel was commonly called "the hunter." Captain Spencer died in 1825, aged 75.

Samuel Spencer bought 500 acres of land lying south and adjoining or near Victory; and embracing what is now called Lymanville, with lands east and north of it. The whole tract he obtained from Colonel Jenkins, of Wyoming, for a *horse and saddle*; but Spencer sold it, on his return to New Hampshire, to his brother-in-law, Gideon Lyman, of Wethersfield, Vermont, for \$500. Of this, a part was paid down, and the rest, by agreement, was to be paid after Mr. L.'s occupation of the land.

In 1801, Ezra Tuttle, of the same town, came in with a family of six children, of whom Abiathar, now living, was the oldest, then 13 years old. The following is a recent published note of him:—

Abiathar Tuttle, who came in with his father, is now living in this township. Last year (1868) he scored and hewed all the large timber for a grain barn, 26 by 18 feet, for Mr. H. K. Sherman; laid out all the framework, Mr. Sherman assisting some in the framing and also in the covering; Mr. Tuttle laying the lower floor in good common style. He is now about 81 years old. His health and faculties are good. He has been an acceptable member of the M. E. Church over 50 years; his life and general deportment an honor to himself and the church.

Myron, son of Ezra Tuttle, was the first child born in the township.

Mr. T. had bought his land under the Connecticut title, and paid to Ezekiel Hyde \$300 for three hundred acres; but he had afterwards to pay \$500 for the same to secure a legal title from the Pennsylvania claimant, Henry Drinker.

He drove in from Vermont two cows, one team of two horses, and another of one horse; and settled near Captain Spencer. He built the first framed house in Springville; and with his sons cleared about two hundred and fifty acres. He also constructed a large part of the Wilkes-Barre turnpike.

He had three sons and four daughters. His death occurred in 1826.

Salmon Thomas came first in 1800, sowed wheat, and returned to New Hampshire; but came back in 1801. Samuel Thomas, his father, and family then accompanied him. Both took up one

hundred acres of land just below A. Wakelee's present location, and lived together; Salmon then being single. In 1805 he married Rosalinda, daughter of Ezekiel Lathrop. Their sons were Reuben, Benjamin, Denison, Salmon Davis, and Edwin.

Samuel Thomas, Jr., came in later, and lived on "the Dr. Denison farm," near the north line of the township; but afterwards removed to Connecticut.

In 1802, Myron Kasson, a native of Litchfield County, Connecticut, came from Auburn (then Braintrim), and settled in the western part of what is now Springville, on the farm at present occupied by his son James. He had come alone, in 1799, to Auburn, and began clearing near the "Four Corners;" but in 1802 his improvements there were purchased by Chester Adams, or the two effected an exchange of farms, the latter never having brought his family to Springville. Mr. Kasson became one of the most prominent men of Springville, and "took an active part in giving coloring and tone to the organization of our county. He filled successively every post of honor in his township, as long as age would permit, with credit to himself and with marked approval by his fellow townsmen." His death, late in 1859, was preceded three months by that of his wife.

In March, 1803, Gideon Lyman, with his wife and eleven children, and accompanied by Captain Spencer (who had been East on a visit,) came to the farm since owned and long occupied by Justus Knapp, Esq. It was but a temporary halt while Mr. Lyman prepared a home on the land he had purchased of Samuel Spencer.

Owing to his generosity while on the way hither, in relieving a friend pressed by a creditor, Mr. Lyman had only fifty cents in his pocket when he reached his destination. The house he occupied was built by felling basswood trees, splitting them open, and laying them up with the flat side inward. It was probably 18 by 14 feet, and had to accommodate thirteen persons through the summer. The roof was made of white ash bark, but the floor was of the same material as the sides of the building.

Two barrels of pork constituted the stock of provisions, and Mr. Lyman was obliged to go to Exeter, near Wilkes-Barre, and sell a horse to get grain for bread. This left him only one horse. He sold a bed to buy a cow. To crown his discouragement, he found he held a worthless title, and had eventually to buy of Mr. Drinker, recovering nothing of what he had paid in good faith to the claimant under the Connecticut title. But he had been a soldier in the Revolutionary army, and was not easily daunted.

In the fall he went to the farm since known as the Lyman homestead, where he lived until his death in May, 1824. His

first house was built about ten or twelve rods from one of the most bountiful springs in our county ; but this was so concealed by laurels that he had lived upon the place several years before it was discovered. Subsequently he built nearer it, and the house is now occupied by his grandson, James H. Lyman. The spring supplies him, and many of the neighbors, with an unfailing stream of pure cold water during protracted drouths.

Gideon Lyman's children all lived to old age, and all but one were present at his funeral. His sons were, Elijah, Gideon, Joseph Arvin, Samuel, John, and Prentiss. Elijah is still living (September, 1869), in Alleghany County, New York, aged 87. His sister, Dolly Oakley,¹ is 85. Gideon, a twin with the latter, died when 55 years old. Naomi Spencer died when 69 ; Samuel when 71 ; Joseph Arvin in his 62d year. The five others are living, the youngest being 71.

Benjamin, Zophar, and Aaron Blakeslee came also in 1801. The last-named was but seventeen years old, and worked for his brothers who had families, until he was twenty-one, when he located next below where A. Tuttle now lives ; and occupied the same farm until his death in 1859. "He was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a generous contributor towards the erection or purchase of a good house in the village of Springville, where that society met for public worship. His house was ever an asylum for itinerant clergymen."

Zophar Blakeslee's farm occupied "the Hollow"—now covered by the village of Springville ; but, in 1829, he removed to the farm now occupied by his widow, near the line of Auburn.

Benjamin Blakeslee's place has been occupied many years by Arad Wakelee (after F. Eaton and S. Pierpont).

Reuben, brother of J. and S. Spencer, Daniel Brewster, and Aaron Avery came in soon after the elder Spencers ; but Reuben died in 1804, and Messrs. Avery and Brewster, thinking all must *starve* here, returned after two or three years to New York. But subsequently Mr. Avery came back, and died in Tunkhannock several years since.

Frazier Eaton and family came in 1803, to the farm where Benjamin Blakeslee died ; but afterwards removed to the first location of the latter, an exchange of farms being effected.

The next year, Thomas Cassedy, wife and two children, came from the State of New York, and settled below the Presbyterian church.

The first marriage in the township was that of Abel Marcy of Tunkhannock, to Eunice Spencer, in 1804.

Three families came in from Saratoga County, N. Y., March 1st, 1806, numbering in all twelve persons. The names of the

¹ Died August 25, 1870.

heads of the families were Pardon Fish, Ebenezer Fish, and John Bullock. Justus Knapp, then a boy, was of the company. All occupied the same house, which had accommodated Gideon Lyman's family in the summer of 1803. During the following summer a house was built, affording some relief.

Aaron Taylor, a native of Connecticut, who had settled on the river above Tunkhannock in 1796, came to this vicinity about 1806. His farm was on the turnpike, near that of Stephen Lott (another old settler) though they were just below the line, after Susquehanna County was set off. A son of Mr. Taylor now occupies his place. Aaron Taylor, Jr., and his sister, Mrs. Zophar Blakeslee, live in the township near Auburn.

In 1806, Augustine Wells Carrier came to the farm lately occupied by Thos. Nicholson.

About 1807, Jeremiah Rosencrants, and the same year or the next, Jonathan Strickland, from near the Delaware River, were added to the number of settlers. Mr. S. died in 1853, aged 80; his widow, in 1866, aged 94.

One summer, among the earlier years of the Lynn settlement, there was a scarcity of bread. A crop of rye was growing, and as soon as it was full in the head it was cut in small quantities, and when dry, was taken out of the straw, cleaned, and set before what was called a Dutch fireplace, and kiln-dried; it was then ground in a coffee-mill, the hopper of which would not hold more than a pint, then sifted and made into something called bread.

Gideon Lyman one Sabbath morning, searching for his cow, found some raspberries; anything so gratifying and exciting he did not think it right to tell his wife during *holy time*, and so waited until evening, when custom closed its observance. His wife was then unable to sleep for joy. In the morning, pails of berries were secured.

A few years later Mrs. L. and a young woman set out with a lantern one evening, to go about a mile and a half to watch with a sick neighbor. Starting from a house where they had been visiting in the afternoon, they lost their way, and spent the night in the woods. A brisk snow storm added to the unpleasantness of the situation, but they made a fire, and as they had a hymn-book, they passed the time in singing hymns. In the morning they proceeded on their way and crossed a wolf's track in the snow, before they reached the small stream which they followed to their destination.

The road from Col. Parke's to Springville Hollow was opened in 1803 or 1804 by the Spencers. Previous to that, only marked trees and a bridle path had guided the traveler to the Susquehanna River at the mouth of the Meshoppen. In 1808 it was traveled by sleds, etc.

To cross narrow streams, trees were often felled to serve as

bridges. Many were the homely substitutes for former comforts in other things. Venison tallow served for candles, branches of hemlock for brooms, three-pegged stools for chairs, etc.

Of the first adult settlers, or of those who came to Springville and near vicinity prior to 1810, Reuben Spencer, Ebenezer Carrier, and Clarinda, first wife of Zophar Blakeslee, were dead at that date. The deaths of the others occurred thus:—

From 1810–20, Alfred and Thomas Brownson, John Taylor, the first Mrs. Elijah Avery, James Rosencrants, Mrs. Timothy Mix, Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Strickland, Sr., and Ebenezer Fish. Joel Hickcox came in 1814 and died 1817. His widow survived him nearly thirty years, and saw a descendant of the fifth generation.

From 1820–30, Gideon Lyman, Sr., J. Bullock's wife, Capt. J. Spencer, Ezra Tuttle, Samuel Thomas, Sr., and wife, and Aaron Taylor aged seventy-five.

From 1830–40, Rhoda Fish, Keziah Lyman, Daniel Spencer, and Zophar Blakeslee.

From 1840–50, Widow Ezra Tuttle, Mrs. Aaron Blakeslee, Jeremiah Rosencrants, Widow Aaron Taylor aged eighty, and Benjamin Blakeslee.

From 1850–60, Pardon Fish, Sr., in his ninety-ninth year; Thomas Cassedy, Sr., aged seventy-five; Widow Ebenezer Fish, Rosalinda L. Thomas, Aaron Blakeslee, Myron Kasson, and Widow Benjamin Blakeslee.

From 1860–70, Widow Thomas Cassedy, Sr., aged eighty; Salmon Thomas aged eighty-seven; John Bullock, and Francis Spencer.

The last-named died in Factoryville, Pa., January 1st, 1869. He had always resided in Springville until a short time before his death.

To this list must now (1872) be added that of Justus Knapp, whose interest gained for the compiler most of the previous items. His death occurred December, 1870, just previous to which he had written the following:—

“Justus Knapp was in his 7th year when he came to this place (Springville); has lived here sixty-four years last March; raised a family of nine children—five sons and four daughters—all of whom lived to grow up to adult years. The mother, three sons, and two daughters, died in the space of six years and two months; the last son was killed at Gettysburg, July 2d, 1863.

Justus Knapp never voted at any other election polls but Springville, having been a voter almost fifty years; was elected justice of the peace in 1846. He succeeded Myron Tuttle, who removed to the West.”

He furnished in 1870 the following list of early settlers, who are dead, additional to those given elsewhere:—

Edward Goodwin, Benjamin Lull, Samuel Quick, James W. Hickcox, Charles Thomas, Joseph Cooper, Asahel B. Prichard,

Martin Park, Joseph A. Lyman, Samuel Lyman, Samuel Sutton, William B. Welsh, Robert Smales, Archibald Sheldon, David Rogers, William Taylor, Thomas Lane, Isaac W. Palmer.

When J. Knapp came in with the Lymans, there were but two log houses where Montrose now stands. He said:—

“There was a log house near where the Widow Isbell now lives, occupied by Dr. James Cook; the next house south was Roberts’; the next what is called the Raynsford house; the next Deacons Wells’ and Deans’; the next was where Friend Hollister now lives, near the north line of Dimock township, that being the last place where we stayed over night till we arrived at our place of destination.

“Near Dimock Corners Captain Joseph Chapman lived; the next house was occupied by Martin Myers; the next by Benjamin Blakeslee; the next by Frazier Eaton; the next by Samuel Thomas; the next by Ezra Tuttle; the next by Captain Jeremiah Spencer.”

John Lyman, Abiathar Tuttle, of Springville, and Caleb and Pardon Fish, of Lynn, of the juvenile first settlers, still survive.

In 1815, Titus Scott came from Waterbury, Connecticut, and made a small clearing on the top of the hill east of Springville Hollow. He brought his family May, 1816; and October, 1817, his brother Jesse came. At the time Titus Scott came in, Arad Wakelee was on the Barnum farm in Lawsville; but in the fall of 1817 his name was among the signers to the charter of St. Jude’s Church; as were also the names of other settlers, the date of whose in-coming has not been ascertained. Mark Scott came to Springville about 1822.

The first regular church services were held at Titus Scott’s log house.

The three brothers, Titus, Jesse, and Mark Scott, belonged to a remarkably long-lived family. Those not now living died at an average age of 72 years. Mark Scott died January, 1860, aged 77. Titus is 87, and Jesse in his 85th year.

The first town officers for Springville were elected in 1814. They include residents of what was afterwards set off to Dimock.

The first constable, Joseph Arvin Lyman; supervisors, Myron Kasson and Daniel Spencer; poormasters, Asa Lathrop and Frazier Eaton.

In 1815, Thomas Parke, Ezra Tuttle, Francis Spencer, and Spencer Lathrop, are mentioned as “freeholders.” In 1816, Francis Spencer was the first town clerk.

Samuel Pierpont was here as early as 1817, and had a small store where Arad Wakelee lives. It is said that Francis Morris and brother had the first stock of goods in the Hollow.

About 1818 or 1819, Leonard Baldwin opened a house of entertainment or tavern in Springville. It was but a small building. This was enlarged and improved by his successor,

Spencer Hickcox who continued to keep a public house until his death. The same house, further enlarged and improved, is the present hotel of Dr. P. E. Brush.

Elections, which had been held at Thomas Parke's, were held in 1818, at Salmon Thomas'.

One who came to Springville from Rensselaer County, New York, in 1819, fifty years later (after mentioning that the family were twelve days on their journey hither), makes the following remarks respecting the wonderful improvements in locomotion and other matters since that time:—

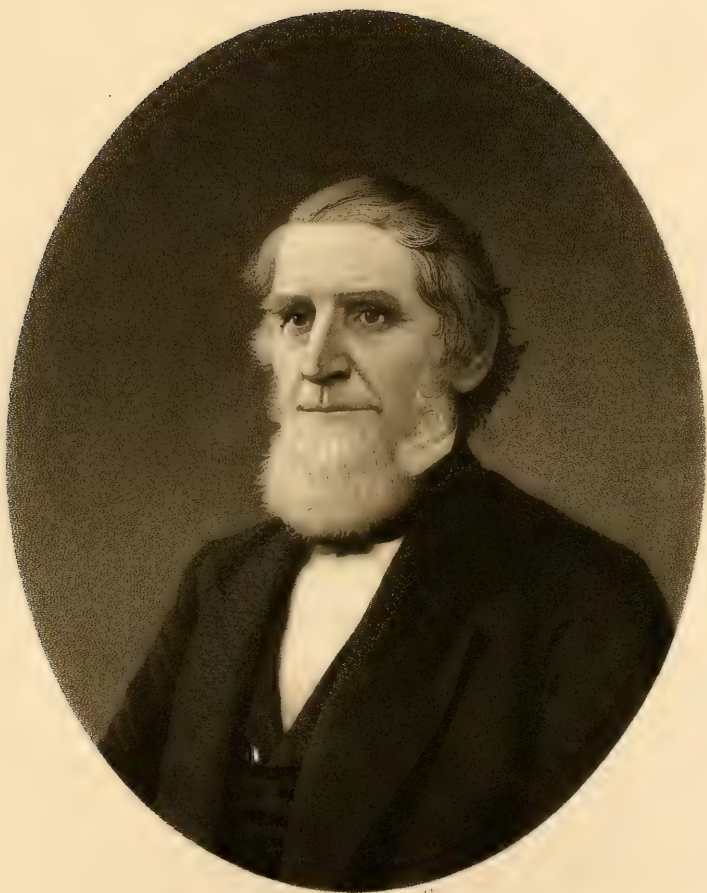
In 1819, the steamboat was only in embryo, or *helpless* infancy. The locomotive engine and iron track were not known. Six-horse teams, carrying from four to six tons, were passing over the roads almost daily—goods coming up country being brought in the other way—an occasional Durham boat passing up the river, only excepted. This was the Northern Pennsylvania style. Other States could boast nothing better, unless we except the eight-horse wagons, with tire six inches wide, which were used on the "Great Western Turnpike" in the State of New York. At the date mentioned there was nothing in the shape of a canal boat; and no place for it if there had been. There were no cast-iron plows at that time; all were made with the mould board of wood. Wagon tires made in just as many pieces as there were pieces of felloes in the wheels, were then going or gone out of use. "*Wooden springs*" were mostly used in the best style of carriages. The mowing, reaping, and threshing machines were unknown. Yes, and one of the great wonders of the age we live in, the sewing machine, also. In those days we knew nothing of the friction match, nor the most wonderful, although not the most useful, of all improvements named, the electric telegraph.

Augustine Meacham and wife came from Claremont, New Hampshire, in 1818 or 1819, and resided here until both died in old age.

William Drinker, agent of the Drinker Estate, and an older brother of Henry Drinker, of Montrose, located in Springville some time between the years 1817 and 1820. He built the house where Thomas Nicholson lived many years, Hon. Asa Packer being one of the workmen. He had previously been married to Eliza G. Rodman, of Philadelphia. Upon leaving Springville he came to reside in Montrose, and occupied the house built by Charles Catlin, the present residence of H. J. Webb, Esq. He lived for a time in Union, New York, and afterwards in the "Bowes Mansion" at Great Bend. He died at the West, about the year 1836.

William Drinker, a bachelor uncle of William, the agent, came and resided with the latter in Springville. He had a fondness for literature, a good knowledge of conveyancing, and was a skilful draughtsman; many of the maps of the Drinker Estate were prepared and drawn by him. He died while on a visit to Philadelphia in 1822.

A friend of Judge Packer contributes the following:—



Asa Packer

HON. ASA PACKER.

Asa Packer, son of Elisha Packer, of Groton, New London County, Connecticut, was born in that town on the twenty-ninth day of December, 1805. As soon as he was old enough to do for himself, a situation was procured for him in the tannery of Mr. Elias Smith, of North Stonington. He soon won the confidence and affection of his employer, but for whose death he would, no doubt, have become a partner in the establishment. He spent the following year in Groton.

Although his opportunities for attending school were limited, he early learned the value of an education, and applied himself with diligence to the acquisition of the rudiments, and afterwards attained considerable proficiency in those branches which promised to be of the greatest practical advantage to him.

In the year 1822, when but seventeen years of age, he set out on foot, with a few dollars in his pocket and his worldly goods comprised in a knapsack, for Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania. Here he apprenticed himself to the trade of carpenter and joiner in Hopbottom, now Brooklyn. He wrought assiduously, and in due time became master of his business. While so engaged, he went with his employer to Springville, to build the mansion of the late William Drinker, Esq., on the place recently occupied by Thomas Nicholson, Esq., and since purchased by Mr. Packer himself. It was during the erection of this dwelling, that he became acquainted with that highly esteemed gentleman, Henry Drinker, Esq. An intimacy grew up between them which continued amidst mutual affection of great warmth until the death of Mr. Drinker in the year 1868.

It was here also that he first met the daughter of Mr. Zophar Blakeslee, Sarah Minerva, who afterwards became his wife, and as such has always proved herself to be all that a wife and mother should be, acquiring and retaining the respect and love of all who have had the happiness of being numbered amongst her friends.

Through these early years he remained poor, but fortune was soon to smile upon him. He heard of the Lehigh Valley as affording greater remuneration for labor, and superior opportunities for advancement. He was induced therefore to remove thither, and in the spring of 1833 located at Mauch Chunk. He brought to his new home but a few hundred dollars, his capital consisting rather of his active mind, strong arms, and industrious habits. His first and second summers were spent in boating coal from Mauch Chunk to Philadelphia, himself acting as master of his own boat. The energy and capacity which he displayed while thus employed, commended him to the favorable notice of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company, with whom he afterwards formed a profitable connection which lasted a number of years.

During a visit which he made at this period, to Mystic, Conn., he gave to his brother Robert (then living with their uncle Daniel at Packersville, Windham County) such a favorable description of the coal region, that he also concluded to take up his abode there and join Asa in the business of boating at Mauch Chunk. Subsequently, they formed a co-partnership under the style of A. & R. W. Packer, whose operations before long became quite extensive, embracing as they did, a large mercantile business at Mauch Chunk and elsewhere; contracts with the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company, which involved the building of dams and locks on the upper navigation; working coal mines leased from the company, and afterwards Mr. Packer's own mines near Hazelton, and shipping coal to Philadelphia and New York. A similar shipping business was done by them on the Schuylkill. They were the first through transporters of coal to the New York market, and it is a fitting return for all his original enterprise in this direction, that Judge Packer's large income now is chiefly derived from this source. Through his coal-mining operations, he was brought into close relations with

the late Commodore Stockton, and between them there sprung up a warm personal friendship, which proved of considerable value in assisting Judge Packer to complete the great enterprise of his life, the Lehigh Valley Railroad. Up to October, 1851, this undertaking was looked upon with but little public favor, and accordingly was prosecuted with but little vigor. At this date Judge Packer purchased nearly all the stock already subscribed, and commenced to obtain additional subscriptions. Late in 1852, he submitted a proposition, which was duly accepted, for the construction of the road from Mauch Chunk to Easton, and immediately took steps for the early performance of the contract. The road was opened for business in September, 1855, having connection with both New York and Philadelphia. (The expenditures for the first three months of its business were \$23,763.33, the receipts being \$26,517.95.) By the merger of the Beaver Meadow, Mahanoy, and Hazelton Railroad Companies, and by valuable connections elsewhere, the business facilities of the company had been already largely increased. Judge Packer now proposed that the road should be extended through the valleys of the Lehigh and Susquehanna to the New York State line, there to connect with the Erie and other projected railways, thus affording a direct route from the lakes to the seaboard. This has been accomplished by the construction of the Pennsylvania and New York Canal and Railroad, having its terminus at Waverly. It has already been the means of developing to a wonderful extent a country of prolific resources, and conferring untold benefits upon the immense population with which it is teeming, and who have been largely induced to take up their residence on its route by the conveniences it has afforded for utilizing the great wealth, mineral and agricultural, abounding in the regions which it traverses and connects. In this respect, Judge Packer deserves a high place among the benefactors of the commonwealth, and in the grand results of his undertakings he furnishes a noble example of what may be accomplished by well-directed energy and business integrity.

It may be interesting to append a statement of the operations of the railroad from Easton to Waverly for the year ending November 3d, 1871, including those of its several branches:—

Total coal tonnage 3,606,530 tons, besides a very large and increasing general freight and passenger business. The total receipts from all sources were \$6,571,159.36. For a number of years it has regularly paid an annual dividend of ten per cent. upon its stock, which now amounts to nearly twenty millions of dollars.

The attention of Judge Packer has not been directed solely in the channels of business. He has always taken a deep interest in all questions affecting the public welfare. Conscious of this, and of his ability to contribute to the general good, he was elected for several years a member of the State Legislature. Retiring from that, he was appointed one of the judges of the county court, a position which he held with honor five years. He was afterwards chosen for two consecutive terms a member of the lower house of Congress, in which capacity he rendered valuable service to his constituents.

In 1868 he was a prominent candidate for the Presidency, and in the National Democratic Convention at New York received the unanimous support of Pennsylvania, and several votes from other States. In 1869 he was the Democratic nominee for Governor in Pennsylvania, his opponent being elected by a small majority.

On his return from a trip to Europe in 1865, he announced his intention of founding an educational institution where young men should be supplied with the means of obtaining that knowledge which should be of the most practical advantage to them. The branches to which he designed particular attention should be given, were civil, mechanical, and mining engineering; general and analytical chemistry; mineralogy and metallurgy; analysis of soils and agriculture; architecture and construction. Having reference to the peculiar advantages for such an education in the neighborhood, he presented

as a site for the buildings a beautiful woodland park of sixty acres on the borders of South Bethlehem. To this he added a donation of \$500,000 in money, beside which he has annually made other large gifts in cash for the current expenses of the Lehigh University, the name by which the institution is called. The main building, Packer Hall, has no superior of its kind in the country. The means of instruction are ample, and are offered *gratuitously* to all who may desire to avail themselves of them.

In addition to his munificent donations to this cause, Judge Packer has contributed very largely to the building and maintenance of churches in Mauch Chunk and in many other places, and has been a liberal friend to numerous benevolent and charitable enterprises all over the country. At the present time he is advancing the material interests of Susquehanna County in the indispensable aid he has given in the building of the Montrose Railroad. In the welfare of this section he has always taken special pride, and his relations with his old friends of the neighborhood remain of the most pleasant and affectionate character. By frequent visits there, and by receiving visits from them in his most hospitable and beautiful home at Mauch Chunk, and above all by his unaffected modesty and simplicity of habits and manners, he has given them ample evidence of the value he sets upon old associations, and of that true manliness of character which is neither unduly depressed by adversity nor puffed up by prosperity.

In 1822, Wm. Frink, of Springville, aged 83, walked 200 miles within eight days, not on a wager, but simply because no other opportunity offered to enable him to pay a visit to his daughter.

In 1824, John J. Whitcomb was a tanner and currier in Springville.

In 1826, F. A. & E. Burrows opened a store on the corner west of A. Beardsley. They were succeeded in 1830 by Noble & Day. F. A. Burrows removed to Cleveland, Ohio, Jan. 1844.

In 1828, a rifle company was formed in Springville. During the winter of 1827-28, Albert Beardsley taught school in the building then used for a church. For ladies, dresses of dark blue calico, with light blue spots, the usual pattern, were then thought sufficiently good to wear to meeting.

In 1828, Dr. Miner Kelly was appointed justice of the peace for Springville. Either in that year, or the one following, Dr. Jethro Hatch, from Connecticut, settled in the place. Previous to their coming, Dr. Jackson, of Tunkhannock, was the physician for all this region. About 1835, Dr. Wm. Wells Pride, bought out Dr. Hatch, and remained nearly 25 years. Upon giving up the practice of his profession, he removed to Middletown, Conn., where he passed the evening of his days with his daughter, Mrs. Rev. Dr. J. Taylor. One cannot correctly estimate the value to the community of two such Christian lives as those of Dr. and Mrs. Pride. Both had gone in their early prime as missionaries of the A. B. C. F. M. (1819-1826) to the Choctaws in Mississippi; the former from Cambridge, N. Y., and the latter as Miss Hannah Thacher from Harford, Susquehanna County. Two of their children were born at the South. On account of the doctor's failing health, the family were obliged to come to the North, the

parents most regretfully leaving the work to which they had hoped to give the remainder of their days.

Dr. Pride had been established in Gibson a short time before coming to Springville. In the latter place he was a ruling elder in the Presbyterian church, and an active anti-slavery advocate.

Mrs. P. died at Middletown, Conn., Aug. 8, 1861, aged 63; Dr. Pride, March 24, 1865, aged 69. His house in Springville is now owned and occupied by Thomas Nicholson, Esq.

Dr. Israel B. Lathrop has been for many years a practicing physician in Springville.

In 1829, Spencer Hickcox had a small store on the site of the present hotel.

'Hazard's Register' contained a notice of Daniel Spencer's wonderful pound of gunpowder, entitled, "*Susquehanna County against the world!*" "In the early settlement of this county, Mr. Spencer, of Springville township, killed, with *one pound of powder*, 60 deer, 9 bears, 3 foxes, 1 wolf, 3 owls, and a number of partridges and quails. Mr. Spencer has killed upwards of 1500 deer since he came to reside in this county."

The following is the testimony of one of his former neighbors: "He was out one day in the fall of the year, when the bucks frequently get into a family quarrel, as in this case. He found two lusty bucks that had been fighting, and in the battle their horns, being long and prongy, became locked together so firmly that they could not be separated by any effort they could make, and one of them died either in the battle or by starvation, and the other had dragged his dead comrade around until he was just alive and had become a mere skeleton."¹

In 1830, A. Beardsley was appointed justice of the peace. J. Knapp, Orin Fish, E. M. Phillips, Miles Prichard, and A. G. Stillwell have been later justices.

Lynn is a flourishing little village, situated in the south part of the township of Springville, twelve miles from Montrose, and nine from Tunkhannock. The first post-office was established in 1836, John Cassedy, Esq., P. M. It has one mercantile establishment, a carriage shop, a shop for ironing carriages, one for repairing clocks, watches, etc., a blacksmith shop, a milliner's, shoe, cabinet, and harness shops, and a mitten factory. It has also a new school-house, a physician, and a Good Templars' organization.

A cheese factory has been established by Hon. Asa Packer in the vicinity.

Niven is the name of a post-office in the southeastern part of the township at "X Roads."

¹ A similar case is reported by F. B. Chandler, of Montrose, in which he had the fortune to secure the living buck, and the horns of both; the latter now ornament his hall.

Patents have been issued to D. G. Dugan for an improved bedstead, and to Dr. J. Owen for an animal trap. [It is probable there have been inventions of greater value, which have not reached the knowledge of the compiler.]

The township is considered healthy, but within a few years it has been visited by the scourge, diphtheria. Six deaths occurred in one family, that of Edward S. Coggsell, within twenty-one days.

In the fall of 1843 or '44, Wm. Belcher proposed teaching a select school in Lyman settlement, providing he could get a room. John and Joseph A. Lyman built a small house on the old homestead, near the Junction, or corners of five roads, where the school was kept for several years, and which became known as the Lymanville Select School, giving name to Lymanville, as it has been called ever since, though there is no village. The M. E. church parsonage and school-house is all there is to distinguish it from other farming communities.

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL.

ST. JUDE'S CHURCH.—Some time previous to 1815, several families from Waterbury and its vicinity, in Connecticut, removed to and settled in Springville. Being mostly Episcopalians, they established a stated Sabbath meeting, some one reading the service from the Prayer-Book, and a sermon from some published volume.

They were visited by the Rev. George Boyd, of Philadelphia, during whose stay a church was organized, a vestry elected, and application made for a charter of incorporation. The charter was granted by the Governor 7th October, 1817, and Joel Hickcox, Amos Bronson, Thomas Parke, John Camp, Titus Scott, Randall Hickcox, Benjamin Welton, Spencer Hickcox, John Bronson, and Leonard Baldwin, were appointed the first vestry.

The Society for the Advancement of Christianity in Pennsylvania, sent the Rev. Manning B. Roche, who alternated for some months between Springville and Pike, occasionally preaching in other places.

About 1825, the Rev. Samuel Marks was sent to Springville, where he resided several years, officiating occasionally throughout the county. He was a man of popular manners, made many friends and did much good.

In 1829, a difficulty in relation to the election of the vestry occurred, which not having been settled in May, 1832, a new charter was applied for and obtained under the name of "St. ANDREW'S CHURCH" (consecrated October 21, 1834).

The first vestry-men were: Thomas Cassidy, Arad Wakelee,

Myron Kasson, A. B. Pritchard,¹ Philonus Beardsley, Asa Packer, and Amos Williams.

The Rev. Samuel Marks continued to officiate alternately in Springville and Montrose. After a time he removed to Carbondale, and was succeeded in Springville by the Rev. Willie Peck, who remained nearly two years. His successor, December, 1835, was the Rev. Freeman Lane, who officiated in Springville and in Pike, Bradford County. In 1836, he taught a select school in Springville. He remained in the parish till 1842, when he resigned, and the Rev. Richard Smith took charge, and held service at Springville two-thirds of the time, and one-third at Montrose.

In May, 1836, Rev. John Long was invited to take charge of the parishes of Springville, Montrose, and New Milford, giving one-third to each. He also organized a parish at Tunkhannock, and a charter was obtained. About this time a parsonage was purchased for Springville, with nearly an acre of ground attached.

In September, 1848, the Rev. H. H. Bean succeeded Mr. Long, giving the whole of his services to the parish and adjoining neighborhood, officiating frequently at Tunkhannock. He remained two years and preached very acceptably. Mr. Bean was succeeded by the Rev. G. M. Skinner, and after a service of some two years the Rev. J. G. Furey took his place, and remained seven years. His successor, Rev. W. S. Heaton, officiated about five years, and then took charge of Pike and the country adjoining. The Rev. W. Kennedy has now charge of the parish. It has a neat and convenient church building, with organ, and some fifty communicants.

List of Presiding Elders in the Methodist Episcopal Church, (organized 1810).

Of (formerly) Oneida Conference, Wyalusing District, and Bridge-water Circuit; at present, Wyoming Conference, Susquehanna District, Springville Circuit.

Early, Silas Comfort; 1812, George Harmon; 1815, Marmaduke Pearce; 1819, George Lane.

From 1830 to 1870, Horace Agard, Fitch Read, George Lane (2d time), John M. Snyder, David Holmes, Jr., William Ready, D. A. Shepherd, George Peck, George Landon, George H. Blakeslee, Henry Brownscombe, and D. C. Olmstead.

¹ Died December, 1868, aged 77.

List of Traveling Preachers—same Territory.

Prior to 1830, Thomas Wright, Joshua Dawson, Caleb Kendall, Joshua Rogers, Mark Preston, William Lull, and Philetus Parkiss.

From 1830 to 1845, Joseph Towner, C. W. Harris, George Evans, C. W. Giddings, M. K. Cushman, Benjamin Ellis, T. Davy, S. B. Yarrington, L. S. Bennett, Erastus Smith, John and Samuel Griffin, E. B. Tenny, C. T. Stanley, A. Benjamin, K. Elwell, T. Wilcox, William Varcoe, William Round, William Ready, H. Brownscombe, J. W. Davidson, E. A. Young, J. O. Boswell, William Silsbee.

From 1846 to 1870, Ira Wilcox, Welcome Smith, Joseph Whitham, T. D. Walker, John Mulky, O. F. Morse, F. Spencer, Marcus Carrier, Charles L. Rice, E. F. Roberts, Luther Peck, F. S. Chubbuck, Z. S. Kellogg, A. P. Aiken, Ira D. Warren, J. V. Newell, Ira T. Walker, E. W. Breckenridge, Charles Pearce, C. W. Todd, A. F. Harding, Stephen Elwell, D. Worrell, John F. Wilbur, and Joshua S. Lewis.

The Methodist Society worshipped in the school house opposite Esquire Beardsley's after 1860. They have now a neat edifice on the main street. The first school house was of logs, "rolled up," near where Ezra Tuttle lived.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

This society was organized about 1819, by Rev. Mr. Conger; but there was no church edifice until 1836, and this was not dedicated until Feb. 9th, 1837. The ministers have been:—

Rev. Sylvester Cooke, 1836, or earlier; Rev. Archibald B. Sloat; Rev. B. Baldwin; Rev. James W. Raynor. Deacon H. G. Ely is probably the only officer remaining.

The church is located near Lynn, two miles below Springville Hollow. Service at present (1869) only once in two weeks; no stated pastor.

The ladies of the church bought the parsonage, and paid part of the debt on the church. The avails of the sale of the former are still in possession of the church.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

APOLACON.

UNDER date of November 27, 1846, the court erected a new township from the western part of Choconut, and ordered "that it be called Apolacon." The line between Choconut and Apolacon then crossed four roads besides the turnpike.

The new township being four and a half miles in width, by six miles north and south, left to Choconut less than half its original dimensions. Like the latter, it took its name from the stream which is the principal drain of the township. At the time the State line was run across it this stream was called the *Appelacunck*, which is said to signify "*From whence the messenger returned.*" The name has been variously written, and at present the town at the mouth of the stream, in New York State, is called *Apalachin*, while the name of the township in Susquehanna County, and of the stream itself, is written as ordered by the court. The sources of the Apolacon and Wyalusing Creeks, in the township, are within two rods of each other. Another source of the latter is in Lake Wyalusing. The small lake which nearly touches the Bradford County line—the western boundary of the township—is one of the sources of the Wappasening, which runs northwesterly and joins the main stream in Bradford County.

Briar Hill is one of the most marked elevations near the creek.

Bear Swamp, not far from the head of the creek, is one of several marshes, almost amounting to lakes, within the boundaries of Apolacon.

This northwest corner of the county is traversed by the same turnpike as that of the southeast corner, and has some features very similar; the lakes, the diagonal stream and valley, and symmetrical "Hills," while its "Meadows" have one counterpart at least in Decker's Flat, in Clifford. The latter is not more inviting to the tourist than the former, unless seen from a high elevation.

A large marsh on the Apolacon, just west of Briar Hill, was known in early times as Big Meadow.

Little Meadows, a locality so named very early to distinguish it from the marsh mentioned above, is two and a half miles lower on the Apolacon Creek, across which, at this point, the

beavers once built a dam ; and thus cut off much of the timber before it was visited by the ax. The borough is on this tract.

It was here the first settlement was made within the bounds of the township, or even of old Choconut from which Apolacon was taken.

Relics of Indians were found near where the beavers built their dam. Arrow-heads of various sizes, made of flint-stone, were found in considerable quantities ; also, stones of exquisite workmanship, the use of which is not known. One was shown to some Indians a few years ago, but they could not tell certainly its use, but suggested that it might have been used on their war-clubs. The stone itself was peculiar—of a kind not found in this section of country. One end was worked to a very fine edge, and flat ; the other was round, and very nicely polished. These stones were of various sizes, ranging from three to six inches in length, and from two to three inches wide on the edge. A few pieces of pottery, made apparently of coarse sand, were also found in the vicinity ; generally five or six inches under ground.

In cutting down maple trees, the early settlers discovered indications of their having been tapped many times in former years. Evidently the locality had been a resort of the Indians in the spring for making sugar ; and in the winter for killing beaver.

This section was once included within the limits of old Tioga township, Luzerne County ; as may be seen by the first assessment roll, 1796, where Francis Johnston is taxed for "lands on Appalacunk Creek, joining the boundary line." In 1799, unseated lands of Tioga are mentioned as lying "on the Choconut and Appalacunk."

The first white man who settled in Apolacon was David Barney, a native of New Hampshire ; which State he left in 1784, reaching Vestal, Broome County, N. Y., in 1785. From this place he came, in 1800, to Little Meadows, where for at least four years he was the only settler west of Snake Creek, above Forest Lake. The hotel of H. Barney and the house of D. Barney are on his farm. He bought of Tench Francis, a large landholder, and received his deed from his widow Anne.

Though Indians as well as beavers had disappeared from this locality before he came, yet two Indians, named Nicholas and Seth, lingered on the creek about six miles below, near the Susquehanna River. Nicholas sometimes came up to hunt in the winter, with Mr. Barney, whose son Harry tells the following of him and his squaw :—

"It was the rule or law among the Indians, that if an Indian married a second squaw, the children of the latter inherited all his property. Nicholas moved from the river about the time my father settled here, to the home of the Oneidas. Not long after, his squaw, finding she must die soon from con-

sumption, poisoned him to death, that her children might inherit his property. Thus ended the life of the last Indian known to have inhabited this part of the country."

In 1801, what is now Apolacon was included in that part of Tioga township then set off to Rush.

In this year Darius, eldest son of David Barney, was born. Within the next seven years, three daughters were born, and in 1809 and 1811, two sons, Jonathan and Harry; two more daughters and David, Jr., constituted the family. Mrs. Richard Collins of Apolacon, Mrs. Jotham Rounds, of Vestal, N. Y., and Mrs. Levi Jones, of Owego, N. Y., are his daughters. David B. died March 27th, 1852, in his 77th year; his wife, February 20th, 1843, in her 62d year.

The next settler within the limits of the borough of Little Meadows, was a soldier of the Revolution, Reuben Beebe, from Dutchess County, N. Y.

A year or two earlier, about 1805, Joseph Beebe, his son, had settled on the creek, above Bear Swamp.

Soon after, Calvin Drake, John Brown, John Smith, Benjamin and Robert Buffum, Charles Nichols, and others, also settled along the creek. Joel, son of Reuben Beebe, Belden Read, Benaiah Barney, brother of David, Lewis and William Barton, and John Anderson, were at Little Meadows previous to 1813. The last named occupied the place afterwards owned by James House. Lewis Barton was a native of Dutchess County, N. Y. He died November, 1852, aged 71. Mrs. Almira B. died in 1868, having lived in Apolacon fifty-six years.

The first death in Little Meadows was that of Xenia, wife of Reuben Beebe, in 1807.

The first school was taught by Eunice Beardslee, the same year. Her marriage, October 19th, 1809, to Joseph Beebe, was the first in the township.

Schools were kept in such vacant rooms as could be found, until a house was built for the purpose a little north of the present school-house in Little Meadows. This was the only one within the limits of Apolacon for a number of years, and most of the scholars had far to go, as the inhabitants were few and scattered.

From 1801 to 1813, the township was a part of Rush, which in the latter year was divided into three parts; the northern being Choconut, of which Apolacon is the western section. While its inhabitants belonged in Choconut, nearly half the town officers were from Apolacon; and it is difficult to associate the early settlers with the present township, since they passed away previous to its erection.

In 1814, Asahel Graves, Sen., and Caleb Brainerd came, and in 1815, Winthrop Collins, Sen., John Clifford, and David Pul-

cipher. At this time Asahel Graves was taxed "in the room of Calvin Drake who is gone to York State." Caleb Brainerd died in 1849.

In 1816, David Currier, John Fessenden, Sen., Noah and William Houghton, Hugh Whitaker, and James House came. Abraham Whitaker's lands lay partly in the township, but his buildings were in Bradford County. Hugh W. afterwards built a house over the line, where he lived until his death.

This year witnessed much suffering here, from scarcity of provisions; David Barney's trusty rifle relieved many, by furnishing them with game. The inhabitants frequently came to him, having nothing to eat, and offering to work on his farm while he hunted venison, and thus kept them from starvation.

The nearest grist-mill was at Ithaca—a distance of forty-three miles. Many devices were resorted to to supply a substitute; the most successful of which was a mortar for pounding corn for *samp*. This was made by cutting down a large hard-wood tree and burning a hole in the top of the stump. The pestle or pounder was made of a hard-wood sapling six or seven inches in diameter, and four or five feet long, with a stick run through for handles. This attached to a spring-pole completed the mill. Samp formed a large portion of the food of most of the inhabitants; it was the staff of life, and must be eaten; a change of diet could not be obtained.

In 1817, John Ayer, Abiel Bailey, Moses Buffum, David Heald, (Edward and Alfred Heald were not taxed until two years later), Stephen I. Jewitt, Nathaniel and Silas Balcom, were new comers. Moses B. removed to Bradford County in 1824. He was taxed while here for "one negro slave."

Oliver Merrill was a taxable of 1819, he afterwards moved in, but left the town in less than ten years.

The trades were well represented by the early settlers. Asahel Graves, Sen. and Jr., and Noah Houghton were blacksmiths; Abel Merrill and Josiah Glines, shoemakers. Benaiah Barney erected the first grist-mill, in 1811; in 1816 David Barney and Belden Read ran a saw-mill. The latter removed in 1821.

Benaiah Barney removed to Indiana, ——— where he died.

The first thoroughly educated man who settled in Apolacon was SAMUEL MILLIGAN. In 1820, he was taxed for 3000 acres. He was born in Philadelphia, April 18th, 1789; graduated at Princeton College, New Jersey, at the age of seventeen; studied law in compliance with the wishes of his family, and practiced at the Philadelphia Bar, acting for some years as the attorney for the Bingham Estate. He was persuaded to buy lands in Susquehanna County; thus relinquishing the law, which was never the profession of his choice. He bought a large tract in the then township of Choconut, and entered largely into farming.

He moved to Ellerslie in the summer of 1821, and became heartily devoted to the interests of his new home. Ellerslie was on a ridge dividing the townships of Choconut and Apolacon, when the latter was erected. The house

was built in the English style, with arched windows, and occupied considerable ground; it has since been divided, and a part moved away.

Mr. M. was appointed justice of the peace (of Choconut inclusive of Apolacon) at the earnest solicitation of his neighbors, and afterwards town-clerk; which latter office he held again and again to the great accommodation of the township.

In 1830, Ellerslie post-office was established, S. Milligan, postmaster; and although it paid expenses, his own mail was often all the bag contained.

He was an ardent Whig, and by his personal influence, and writings, he contributed much to the cause, particularly in the fall of 1832, when by his writings he was said to have caused a great change in sentiment throughout the county. Although all his life interested in politics, he never wished to enter into the excitement of political life or to accept office save in the service of the county for whose benefit he labored.

In 1832, he actively advocated the construction of a railroad to connect Owego with the Lackawanna coal-field by the way of Apolacon Creek, etc. [See Roads.]

In 1842, Mr. Milligan was again urged to accept a nomination as justice of the peace, which he repeatedly refused, but finally accepted on the grounds, as his friends insisted, that no other Whig could gain the election (the township being Democratic), and he was elected. He was a man of strict integrity, of fine talents, and extensive reading. He was one of the first promoters and directors of public schools; and so earnest was he that all should be benefited, that when, by his entreaties, he failed to get the consent of the people to send their children to school, he appealed to their priest to require it of them. His zeal was equally great for good roads throughout the township. At one time, losing all patience on account of a bad piece of road near his house, he requested his friends to make him supervisor, which they did, and thus the roads were put in order.

He was largely instrumental in building the Presbyterian church at Friendsville, of which he was an elder and trustee.

In 1847, at the earnest wish of his family to return to the old homestead, he removed to Phoenixville, Chester County. In the latter place he was again active in building a Presbyterian church, in which he served as elder and trustee until his death, April 24th, 1854.

The first town clerk of old Choconut was Alfred Heald, in 1821. His farm was on the turnpike between Friendsville and the Apolacon Creek; he died December, 1835, aged 41 years. This road was so excessively hilly as first constructed, that the court appointed B. T. Case, Esq., and others to review it, which was done; but it is difficult to conceive of its ever having been any more hilly than it is at present.

In the Annals of Middletown reference is made to the incoming of Silas Beardslee. After his death Mrs. Beardslee came, with her son Silas, to Apolacon about 1822. Our present member of the State Legislature, E. B. Beardslee, is their son.

In 1824, O. B. Haight settled upon the farm vacated the same year by Moses Buffum.

A swamp in the northeast corner of Apolacon takes its name from one Hugh Bois, who in 1825 built a shanty there, stayed a few months, cleared a small place, and left. [Incorrectly marked Hubois Swamp on county map.]

Winthrop Collins, Jr., removed about 1826. His father, Winthrop, Sr., remained in the township until his death in 1828.

This year Caleb Carmalt purchased of Dr. R. H. Rose one-half of his original estate in Susquehanna County, and, by the division, nearly all the then unseated land in what is now Apolacon, additional to lands in other townships. [See Choconut.]

The first Irish settlers of Apolacon were Edmond and Patrick O'Shoughnessy, in 1831.

Prior to this time a number of the sons of the first settlers had become of age. Among these was William House, a son of James and father of William A., at present a member of the New Jersey Assembly. The 'State Sentinel,' of Trenton, New Jersey, in a series of "Legislative Daguerreotypes," represents William A. House as one of the finest in the group.

James House had three sons, Ezekiel, William, and Royal E. The youngest, who was but six months' old when his father came from Vermont, is known as the inventor of the "Printing Telegraph." He was accustomed to experiment in childhood. Once having caught a toad, he skinned it, placed a set of springs in the skin, and made it hop.

His residence for many years was near Binghamton, high up the side of "House's Hill."

When the township of Apolacon was erected, more than forty years after its settlement, there remained upon the tax-list an unusually large proportion of the names of the early families: Barney, Beebe, Barton, Brainerd, Buffum, Beardslee, Collins, Clifford, Currier, Fessenden, Graves, Heald, Houghton, House, and others.

A large number of Irishmen were here.

Evan Evans and John Jones, Welshmen, connected with the settlement extending hither from Middletown, and the eastern border of Bradford County, had settled not far from the latter, west of Lake Wyalusing. This lake rests on the top of a high hill on land belonging to the heirs of Samuel F. Carmalt, whose residence was near it many years later. The early death of this gentleman, the eldest son of Caleb Carmalt, of Choconut, was felt as a serious loss to the township. He was President of the County Agricultural Society.

There are fine orchards in this neighborhood, and the land lies handsomely. There are also good dairy farms, and the vicinity produces excellent fruit.

O. B. Haight, having a dairy of eight cows, made and sold 1313 pounds of butter in the season of 1868, besides having on hand sufficient for the winter's use. The milk and butter for the use of the family, for the season, was also taken from the general product.

In November, 1869, Patrick Harding raised an apple of the

variety known as ox-heart, which measured $14\frac{7}{8}$ inches in circumference, and weighed one pound and seven ounces.

Upon the incorporation of the Borough of Friendsville, Apolacon parted with a small portion of territory on the southeast corner.

November, 1856, the court was petitioned to order the erection of the Borough of Little Meadows, $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles square. Its decision in favor of the petitioners was reversed by the Supreme Court the following year; but in August, 1859, the petition was again made, with an alteration in the dimensions, and was granted January, 1860. The Supreme Court twice reversed the decision. The final decree was made when the Governor signed an Act of the Legislature for that purpose, March 27th, 1862.

The northern line of the borough is the State line, $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles; the east line is 400 rods, and the west, on the Bradford County line, is 430 rods.

The borough is pleasantly situated on the Apolacon, and is easy of access. Hopes are entertained of a railroad to connect it with the Lehigh Valley Road at Skinner's Eddy, and with the Erie Railroad. Campville station on the latter, seven miles distant, is now the nearest station. A daily mail, two stores, a saw-mill, grist, lath, and planing-mills, two blacksmith shops, wagon, harness, shoemaker, and cooper shops, give life and animation to business. There are forty-one voters in the borough. Its physicians are A. H. Bolles and Jonathan Barney. The Methodist church is a neat structure. Maplewood Cemetery was chartered in 1865.

For the last few years, in addition to the district school, a select school has been sustained in the autumn months by J. W. Tinker, William F. Miles, and others.

During the war the patriotism of this section was well represented in the field and at home.

With few exceptions, the aged people of Apolacon are not the longest residents. One John Ragan, is said to be 104 years of age, and walks to Friendsville, a distance of three miles from his home, to attend church, quite regularly.

Darius Barney, the first-born of the Borough of Little Meadows, lived in the place all his life—sixty-nine years.

Polly Fessenden came to the township in 1809, and moved to Tuscarora in 1869.

Jonathan and Harry Barney, some of the first settlers, have spent their lives in Little Meadows.

As early as 1809, this section was visited by ministers of the Methodist Episcopal church, among whom were Messrs. Loring Grant (circuit preacher), Ross, and Baker.

Asabel Graves, Sen., a layman of the Presbyterian church, who came in 1814, collected a few of the scattered inhabitants,

read to them a discourse and conducted other religious services. This was three or four years prior to any regular church organization here.

It could not have been earlier than 1816, that Elder Davis Dimock organized a Baptist church here. Two of the constituent members, Polly Fessenden and Lucinda Whitaker, are still living; but the organization long since ceased to exist. It was the first religious society of the township, as the Free Will Baptists were not organized until a little later, by Elder John Gould, who afterwards became a follower of Joe Smith. Notwithstanding this unpropitious fact, the society continued, and having concentrated about two miles north (in the State of New York), built a church edifice in 1845, and are now in a state of prosperity.

Not far from the time of the latter organization, the Methodists were formed into a society by John Griffin. The constituent members were John Brown and wife, Charles Nichols and wife, Benjamin Buffum and wife, and Winthrop Collins and wife. A little later John Clifford and wife joined the society, and the former was appointed class-leader, a position he held for many years. They have all passed away, as have most of those who labored for their spiritual benefit: Solon Stocking, Joseph Towner, Erastus Smith, Thomas Davy, John Griffin, Morgan Rugar, and others.

The first quarterly meeting was held in a building used as a carding-machine shop. Solon Stocking was then presiding elder. The society continues and is now in a strong and healthful condition, numbering about one hundred members. In 1845 they built the meeting-house they still occupy, but it has since been enlarged, and a bell is added.

An effort was made in 1823, by Elder Edward Dodge (Baptist), to establish a Sunday-school, but it proved a failure, possibly because the Sunday-school hymns were not then attractive. A verse of one is here given as a specimen (No. 102, Watts):—

“No, I'll repine at death no more,
But, with a cheerful gasp, resign
To the cold dungeon of the grave
These dying, withering limbs of mine.”

In 1824, Miss Polly Graves collected the children together, and spent an hour each Sabbath morning and afternoon in explaining to them the Word of God; but it was not until the following year that a regular organization was effected by William Dobson. This Sunday-school has been continued to the present time. Its first officers were: Wm. Dobson, superintendent; Benaiah Barney, president; Lewis Barton, treasurer; Wm. House, librarian; and Jacob Barton, secretary.

In the summer of 1828, there was a great Sunday-school celebration at Owego, N. Y., when seventy-eight scholars from this

vicinity, under the superintendence of Wm. Dobson, were present. Each scholar wore around the neck a blue ribbon, having a Testament suspended from it. There were fourteen wagons in the procession, while some persons went on horseback and others on foot. Many were barefoot, and all were dressed in homespun. A Bible had been offered by Charles B. Pixley, of Owego, to the school best represented at this celebration, and Supt. Dobson, in behalf of his scholars, had the honor of bearing off the prize, which, by a vote of the school, was afterwards presented to him as a token of kind regard.

CHAPTER XXIX.

CHOCONUT.

DURING the first term of court held in Susquehanna County, January, 1813, a petition was presented for the erection from the northern part of Rush (then extending to the State line), of a township eight miles square, to be called Choconut. A remonstrance, setting forth the propriety of dividing Rush into three nearly equal townships, was afterwards received, and the prayer granted "nisi," November, 1813, and finally, January, 1814, making Choconut six miles north and south, by eight miles east and west. Its area as thus determined remained unaltered until 1846, when it was reduced more than one-half by the erection of Apolacon, which now forms its western boundary. The State line is on the north, Silver Lake township on the east, Forest Lake and Friendsville on the south.

Choconut derives its name from the stream which traverses the entire length of the township near its eastern border, and so nearly due north, that from the hills on either side, near the State line, the whole valley southward is distinctly seen.

At the time the State line was run, it was reported to cross the *Chucknut*, among other streams falling into the Susquehanna within a short distance above the line. Its Indian signification is not positively ascertained. The head of the Choconut is in the narrow divide between it and the middle branch of the Wyalusing in the northern part of the township below; but it is also fed by a beautiful lake of the same name in the southwestern part of Choconut township. Small ponds form the sources of three or four tributaries on the west, which furnish fine mill-seats, as also do two or three coming from the east; and these have been improved from the first settlement of the township.

The surface of Choconut is hilly; the soil, gravel and clay. It is well adapted to the raising of corn, potatoes, oats, rye, grass, beans, carrots, turnips, etc., and spring wheat and barley, when managed properly. The land on the hills is the best for grain. Buckwheat grows well, but rye and oats better.

There are not as many sheep as formerly, but most of them are of superior breeds. "There are no finer sheep-pastures than the hills of Susquehanna County, and there is no reason why, with a little effort and enterprise on the part of farmers, and the introduction of the same breeds, it should not compete with Vermont."

The wild animals of the earlier times were deer (very numerous), wolves, and a few bears. There were a few foxes, otter, the porcupine, sable, and marten. Panthers and wild-cats were quite frequently seen; and in some years there were millions of wild pigeons. Wild geese and ducks are still found on the lakes every autumn, which contain trout (genus *salmo*); some being two feet long.

The settlement of the township was begun in 1806 along Choconut Creek, by James Rose, David Owen, James Thayer, John Lozier, and James Winchell. Mr. Rose was a man of education, a surveyor, and agent for lands in this section. His early life had been spent in Philadelphia and vicinity. He located on the flat now occupied by Michael Donnelly, 2nd. Mrs. Rose died here in 1816, leaving eleven children, only one of whom, the widow of Horace Bliss, is now living in the county. Mr. Rose died in Silver Lake, on the site of the former residence of his brother, Dr. Robert H. Rose, many years after the death of the latter.

David Owen was from Connecticut, and is spoken of as "a good farmer;" James Thayer, from New York, an excellent millwright, whose sons, Hiram and Thomas, were deer-hunters as well as farmers. John Lozier remained a number of years, but James Winchell appears to have left after a short time.

Joseph Addison, Edward Cox, and the Chalker brothers—Daniel, Joseph, and Charles—were on the Choconut, below James Rose, prior to March, 1809, and Bela Moore was at the junction of the outlet of the lake with the creek.

Joseph Addison was a Scotch-Irishman—a Protestant; his wife, a Dutch woman. Their son Isaac was the first child born in Choconut. The father died April, 1849, aged 72.

Edward Cox had settled in Lawsville as early as 1805. He died in Choconut in 1821. His sons were Edward and Thomas. His daughter Sabra taught the first school in the township, at her own home.

In 1810, Adam Carman, a hunter, purchased of Dr. Rose,

lands now owned by the widow of Caleb Carmalt near the lake, which was first called Carman's Lake.

William Price owned the farm next below J. Addison, and near the State line; Joshua Griswold, from Vermont, was in the western part of the township, and, a few years later, he and his sons, Clark and George, built the first saw-mill in Choconut; and he was appointed the first justice of the peace. Captain Ezra Doty, a blacksmith, and a soldier of the Revolution, was, with his sons, William, Nathan and Zura, at the place since known as "Mannington," and later "St. Joseph's." E. Doty was afterwards in Forest Lake.

Amos Webster, a native of Connecticut, came from near the Mohawk, September, 1810, and located on the creek north of E. Doty, where he remained until his death, in 1841, aged 77. He was a shoemaker. His sons were, Abel, Alexander, Asahel, Alvah, Sylvester, Elias, and Russell. None of the family are now residents of Choconut.

Adonijah Webster, brother of Amos, first took up land here—about two hundred acres, dividing with the latter—but did not settle until years afterwards, and somewhat later than his only son, Elias. The latter died in Choconut, May, 1832, and his father in July following.

Prior to 1813, Horace Bliss, who married Isabella, daughter of James Rose, was located near the latter; Levi Smith, a potter, from Vermont, settled where Cornelius Hickey lives; Jedediah Tallman, a Quaker, and son Stephen J., a carpenter, were here, and the latter taught the first public school; also, Reuben Faxon, a hatter, and many years later a justice of the peace. Jesse Truesdell was a taxable, at least, as early as these.

Lewis Chamberlin, a native of Rhode Island, who removed to Vermont in 1800, and married there in 1811, came to Choconut September 1, 1813, with his wife and one child (Albert), and settled on the farm he occupied until his death, March 20, 1871, when he had reached nearly the age of 87 years.

A. Chamberlin, late justice of the peace in Montrose, and now United States assessor in Scranton, recalls the time when from his bed he could see the stars through the chinks in the roof. Eight or nine brothers and sisters grew up with him, and one-half of the number still remain with their mother on the old spot—the only persons of New England birth and descent now left in the valley of the Choconut, down to the State line.

During the Presidency of Andrew Jackson, Lewis Chamberlin received a commission as postmaster, which office he held without intermission or re-appointment until his death, a period of 42 years; and is supposed to have been, at the time, the only acting postmaster in the United States whose commission bears so remote a date.

Benjamin Chamberlin, father of Lewis, came a few months later than he. Both were scythe-makers. The father when a soldier in the Revolutionary war was a prisoner three months on board a prison-ship in the East River, near New York. He died in 1822, aged 60. His widow, Olive, died in 1843, aged 82.

All the common trades were represented by the early settlers, the most of whom also cultivated land.

Among the taxables of 1813 were: Jesse Taylor, a cabinet-maker; Gordon Bliss, a house-joiner and carpenter, near the school-house, on the creek, below James Rose; and Jirah Bryan, a farmer near St. Joseph's, and also, a Baptist minister. He published a small treatise on the Atonement, entitled the 'Seven Links.' He died in 1844, aged 64. His widow, afterwards Mrs. Horace Birchard, recently deceased, mentioned the fact of a small clearing having been made on the hill near St. Joseph's, close to which a panther prowled all winter. "He would begin to yell near the clearing, and go off screaming till he was out of hearing. I have counted," she added, "seven deer, all large, going out of our wheat-field, where they had been feeding."

Paul Taber, Jonathan Green, Paul Jones, Ezra Congdon (since in Binghamton), and Andrew Gardner, were farmers—the last named also a mechanic. Lark Moore, "a first-class cooper and farmer," was in the southwest corner of the present township, a part of his land being now included in the borough of Friendsville, and extending on the turnpike from Silver Lake Street to the west line of Mrs. Munda. Michael Dow, Bildad Hubbell, William L. Isham, and David Lindley appear to have been in as early as 1813; but in the year following their places were occupied by others, among whom were Jacob and Jesse B. Goodsell.

Jacob Goodsell, and his sons, Isaac, Daniel, Samuel, Harry, Ira, and Truman, settled near the lake, having purchased the lands of Adam Carman, and for some years after it was called "Goodsell's Pond."

In 1814, Matthew Stanley began a clearing at the place since named "Ellerslie," then in Choconut, but he soon after came to the farm now occupied by his son Jasper Stanley, about two miles north of Choconut Lake. He was afterwards a justice of the peace. His sons who came with him were, Calvin, Luther, Jasper, Captain Stephen Heriman, Archy, Horace, Jason, and Matthew. Luther Stanley was in the war of 1812. Matthew Stanley, Sr., died in 1838, aged 72.

Jasper Stanley is the only man of the settlers prior to 1817 now (1872) living in the township. These pages are indebted to him.

Capt. John Locke, one of the Boston tea-party of 1773, and a soldier at Bunker Hill, White Plains, and Saratoga, came to

Choconut, May, 1814. His farm was on the south line of the township, adjoining Jirah Bryan's. His sons, John, Edmund, and Nathaniel R., were stone-cutters and masons. He died in the spring of 1834, aged eighty-three.

Nathaniel R. Locke came to Choconut a single man. He married Hetty Ross and lived on the place now occupied by John Gorman. Their son, David Ross Locke, is the author of the 'Petroleum V. Nasby' papers—a series of political letters which have had an influence on the politics of the country. They very early attracted, by their ability and humor, the attention of President Lincoln. "Nasby" was born on Choconut Creek, it is said, but a little beyond the State line, in Vestal, Broome County, N. Y. N. R. Locke, now nearly or quite eighty years old, writes from the West, that, on his arrival in Choconut, May, 1814, there was no military organization; but that in October of that year an election of officers was held and Isaac Goodsell was chosen Captain, Joseph Whipple (Silver Lake) First Lieutenant, — Jewett, Second Lieutenant, and N. R. Locke, First Sergeant. He says:—

"We had to go to Montrose for our battalion. We were given the right, and so became the first company in the regiment. I think Mr. Whipple must have resigned, as I was elected first lieutenant. Frederick Bailey was colonel, and Edward Packer, major. But by some means our company dwindled away. The military law was then very defective in Pennsylvania, and we were without an organization for some time; so Dr. Rose proposed to have a rifle company formed in Silver Lake. We met at his office and organized into a company called the 'Silver Lake Rifles.' Our uniform was a hunter's frock, and pants of green flannel, trimmed with yellow, a red sash, common hat with a buck-tail in front. We had a full company, according to law, N. R. Locke, Captain, Philip Griffith, First Lieutenant, and Bradley Chamberlin, Second Lieutenant. By some means we never got our commissions, so that company also went down, and I went out of the military business altogether."

A family of Lockes, not related to the above, consisting of Molly, widow of Ebenezer Locke, and her sons, Reuben T. and Charles, were located on the creek below Gordon Bliss, and on the place now occupied by Peter Clarke. Mrs. Locke died in 1844, in her seventy-sixth year. Reuben T. Locke was afterwards a tailor in Montrose, and built what was long known as *the Locke Mansion*, now Odd Fellows' hall. "He was of Lambertine proportions," says a newspaper correspondent, "whom I well knew as an original abolitionist and a wit of the first water, in the days when the fun of the controversy, as brought out in that tailor's shop, found precious few who had the capacity to enjoy it."

Capt. Westol Scoville, a Revolutionary soldier, was another settler of 1814. His sons, Buel and Orlen, were wagon-makers.

In 1815, Peter Brown moved in from Silver Lake, and kept the first store in Choconut. Bildad Hubbell afterwards sent goods to the place, which were sold by his agent, Mr. Stanley.

Chauncey Wright, a clothier, from Hartwick, Otsego County, N. Y., settled on a branch of the Choconut, near the present center of the township, and established a fulling-mill. In 1842, he removed to Forest Lake.

John Sherer, miller and farmer, came the same year. His sons were John, James, William, Barrett and David.

Robert Giffen and his sons Isaac and Robert, farmers, settled on the Choconut next below James Rose. He died about 1821.

The year 1816 brought in a large number of inhabitants, but it was a year of great destitution. The corn crop was a total failure. None was raised this side of Chester County, Pa. Jehu Lord, then residing there, but afterwards in Choconut, raised ten acres of corn, which was all sold for seed, at \$5.00 per bushel. "Hogs were not fat enough to be called pork. Deer were poor, but with rye bread and a very few potatoes, furnished subsistence for the pioneer. Maple sugar had been plentifully made as late as the 12th of May. The snows of 1815-16-17 were not sufficient for sleighing."

Hiram Bates, a shoemaker, tanner, and currier, located just opposite and north of Chauncey Wright, on the present farm of Mrs. E. Mulford, where he remained until about thirty years ago, when he went West.

Of other settlers of 1816, there were: Ezra Conant, a cooper; John Clark, a great hunter; John Eldred, a soldier of 1776, and Zephaniah, his son, of the war of 1812, and who died recently at Owego, aged eighty-six;¹ William Elliott, a blacksmith; Jehiel Griswold, formerly a ship-carpenter, and sons, Judson, Levi (afterwards a Presbyterian minister), and Eben; John Fairbrother; David Robbe, a farmer, and some years later a justice of the peace; and Daniel Wheeler, a school teacher and farmer.

Calvin Leet, a physician from Vermont, located first at "Slab City"—as the vicinity of Wright's mill was called—but soon removed to Friendsville where he owned about 300 acres. His father, Capt. Luther Leet, came soon after. Dr. Leet was the first regular physician in the western half of the county, and for some years the only one. "He had a rough circuit to ride when the roads were root-y and full of stumps." He was once an Associate Judge of Susquehanna County Courts, and served in the State Legislature. He is still living, an octogenarian, at Friendsville. His son, Nathan Y. Leet, succeeded him in the practice of medicine in the same vicinity, several years, but is now located at Scranton. Calvin L., another son, resides in Friendsville, on the old farm of Henry Cox.

¹ Mrs. Eldred, at an early day, lost her way while chestnutting, and wandered about until nearly midnight in a marshy part of the woods. The wolves howled around her, and she climbed a tree for safety. She was found there in the morning, and put on the path for home.

In 1817, Joab Chamberlin, a wheelwright and wagon-maker, and a brother of Lewis, located near the latter; he removed some years ago to Michigan, where he died May 4th, 1869, in the seventy-fourth year of his age.

Jacob Heath and his son Amos purchased farms in the north-east corner of the township.

In 1818, elections for Silver Lake and Choconut were held at the house of Levi Smith. For many years these townships were united in many ways; all the settlers were on lands of Dr. R. H. Rose, his tract then extending over both townships and beyond.

In 1819, Samuel Barnard, from Boston, England, Thomas Laycock, Samuel and Isaac Marshall came to this section, and soon after, Thomas Christian. The first named soon removed to Montrose. Thomas Laycock was near Choconut Lake.

In 1820, Thomas Peironnet, an Englishman, had scarcely reached Friendsville, when he died suddenly; his lands along the turnpike, extending into both Choconut and Apolacon, were transferred to his brother James S. Peironnet. The latter was born in Dorchester, England. A friend said of him: "He exchanged for a home in a then uncultivated wild, the shaven lawn and rose-wreathed cottages that lend such charms to English scenery. He often reminded me of those virtues that grace the character of an English country squire as shadowed forth by the felicitous pen of Irving. He retained a love of letters to the last; and when in the mood, touched his violin as a master. He had a thorough knowledge of music as a science, and composed with readiness." He died December 21, 1843, in his seventy-first year. Thomas Christian built the R. D. Peironnet house, now M. Dow's, and this was in Choconut; but the house of James S. Peironnet, now E. Moran's, was in Apolacon, upon the division of the former.

Of J. S. Peironnet's sons, R. D. and John S. were merchants of Friendsville in 1835, and for several subsequent years; Frederick was a physician. Two daughters married Henry and Sackville Cox. The family removed to the West several years ago.

The year 1819 was marked by the arrival of a large number from the vicinity of Philadelphia who belonged to the religious Society of Friends.

FRIENDSVILLE.

About this time Dr. Rose set off a tract three-quarters of a mile long by three-sixteenths of a mile wide on each side of the Milford and Owego turnpike, which he named Friendsville. This was in reality the name of the *settlement* of Friends, though

few of their number were within the prescribed limits, the lands of some lying in what is now Forest Lake and Middletown, and of others in the center of the present township of Choconut.

William Salter, Samuel Savage, William and John King (English), John and Thomas Nicholson (from Ireland), Thomas Barrington, Daniel Richards, Enoch and George Walker (from Chester County), were among the earliest Friends here. The last named located at "Lakeside," but soon removed to "Woodbourne."

Lydia, wife of Daniel Richards, was a minister among Friends. Their sons were, Abel, Roland, Daniel, Samuel, and Joseph. Mr. Richards is buried in Friends' Cemetery; Mrs. R. died in 1840, in her 70th year, at the West. The Nicholsons were located east of the lake. John died in New York; Thomas removed to Springville.

Thomas Barrington died in Ohio. Samuel, his brother, came to the place S. Barnard had occupied; he died in Friendsville (or vicinity). Elizabeth, his wife, is mentioned as "a woman whose mild and courteous demeanor was happily blended with the unobtrusive graces of the christian." She died in Springville at the house of her son-in-law, Thomas Nicholson.

Samuel Savage left after two or three years.

William Salter had a store at Friendsville in 1820. Dr. Levi Roberts came about this time. He died here about five years later. His lands passed eventually into the hands of Isaac Carmalt and Joshua Gurney. James Palmer, a blacksmith from Delaware Co., John Hudson, Thomas Darlington, Nathan Hallowell, Jehu Lord, Seth Pennock, John L. Kite, Joseph and William Thatcher (from Chester County), whose land was transferred from James Thayer and David Owen, were among the arrivals prior to 1825.

John Hudson was an Englishman; his son John married Susan, sister of Caleb Carmalt, and both are buried in Friends' Cemetery.

John Lord was a minister among Friends; he died in Ohio. His three daughters were the wives of Seth Pennock, John L. Kite, and John Mann.

Those who came in 1819 and 1820 were diminished nearly one-half within three years. T. Darlington and N. Hallowell left not long after. They were located just north of Lakeside.

What was thought of this section by a visitor, and by others at that time, may be learned from the following letter dated June, 1821, and first published in the 'Village Record,' edited by Asher Miner, in Southern Pennsylvania; it was written by Samuel Baldwin, of Chester County, who afterwards purchased lands here, which, by 1823, had reverted to Dr. Rose.

"The timber of Susquehanna County is a suitable proportion of white pine and hemlock, for building, fencing, etc.; white ash, chestnut, wild

cherry, and beech, some white and black oak, with a plentiful proportion of sugar maple to supply a sufficiency of sugar and molasses for the inhabitants, and some for exportation.

"The county is, as respects the surface, what is generally called a ridgy or rolling surface—very few of the hills too steep for cultivation, and their summits appear equally fertile with any other part. In the hollows or valleys there are delightful clear streams, a proportion of which are large enough for any kind of water-works, and they abound with trout and other kinds of fish. I think it the best watered country in my knowledge. Sufficient evidence can be produced that abundant crops of wheat and rye have been raised there, and Indian corn at the rate of 100 bushels to the acre, and these crops without ploughing the ground. The custom of the country is to raise several successive crops with harrowing the ground only.

"From a free conversation with the inhabitants, I was assured that the air is generally serene and clear, the climate very healthy—seldom if ever any fog—clear of fever and ague, or fall fevers.

"The Friends' settlement is called *Friendsville*, and is situated on the great western turnpike leading to the Lake Country. There are divers turnpikes passing through said county from Philadelphia and New York, and our navigable waters furnish an easy mode for the conveyance of produce to those markets—say 160 to 180 miles distant, and there is a prospect of having the distance considerably shortened.

"The Friends hold meeting regularly twice a week, under the care of a committee of the monthly meeting of Stroudsburg."

Mr. Waldie, editor of the 'Messenger,' which he then published at Montrose, added in his paper the following comments upon Mr. Baldwin's letter:—

"We hope it will allay the foolish and unfounded ideas regarding our situation, soil, etc., which have been latterly entertained in the cities. That the most incorrect opinions are circulated in Philadelphia, by certain people, we ourselves know; and if we had given credence to the many idle tales we heard we certainly should never have ventured here. But, like Mr. Baldwin, we wished to judge for ourselves; we visited it, and are satisfied."

Yet he, too, disposed of his interests in the county as early as Mr. Baldwin.

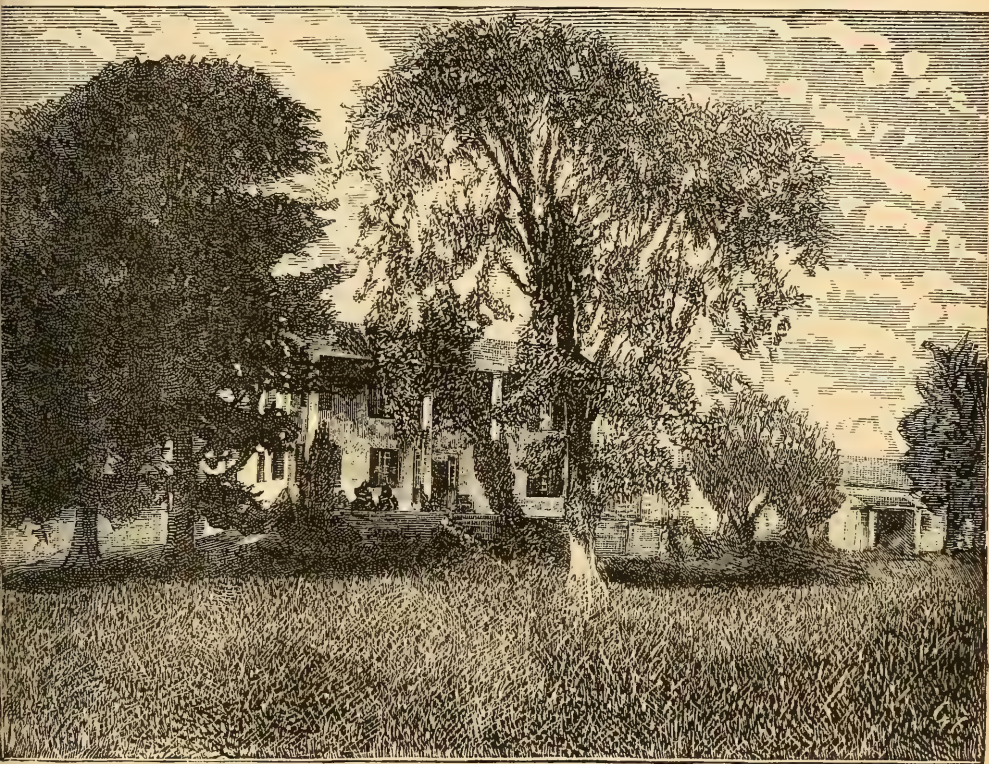
Benjamin T. Glidden, a native of New Hampshire, came to Friendsville from New York State, about 1825. He was a blacksmith. He remained but a short time before his removal to Warren, and subsequently to Little Meadows; but in 1831 he purchased a farm near Stanley Turrell, in what is now Forest Lake. Two years later he was again in Friendsville, and built the house now owned by J. Mulhare, where he died February, 1852, aged 68. His sons are Benjamin, of Friendsville (the late county treasurer), and D. W. Glidden, of Montrose.

The lands and store of William Salter were transferred in 1827 to Thomas Christian (not a Friend), who kept a store and tavern many years in Friendsville.

Caleb and Sarah Carmalt joined the Friends' Settlement in 1829. During the previous year Mr. C., in addition to purchasing the half of Dr. R. H. Rose's estate in Susquehanna County, had secured the farm now known as "Lakeside," from Thomas

Williamson, of Philadelphia, who bought it, in 1819, of Jacob Goodsell. Goodsell's Pond has since been known as Carmalt or Choconut Lake.

Fig. 23.



"LAKESIDE," NEAR FRIENDSVILLE. RESIDENCE OF MRS. CALEB CARMALT.
(The Lake lies about sixty rods south of the house.)

CALEB CARMALT.

Caleb Carmalt was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania. His ancestors emigrated from Cumberland County, England. His education was mainly the result of his own efforts. He first entered a printer's establishment, and learned the business; but afterwards entered the office of a distinguished conveyancer of Philadelphia, and learned the profession thoroughly, reading law to such an extent that he is said to have "committed Blackstone to memory." He was a member of the Society of Friends, growing more interested in their principles as he grew in years. During the first ten years of his life he resided in Philadelphia, and was always active in political and public affairs.

He removed to this county in 1829, becoming, by his purchases from Dr. R. H. Rose and others, one of its largest land owners; and he exercised a great influence among the settlers.

The division of the Society of Friends carried from the community in which he lived, many of those who were most nearly associated with him.

The completion of the Erie Railroad superseded the great stage routes, and contributed to isolate this section from the outside world.

Thus the latter years of his life were spent in seclusion, although he never lost his activity until his last illness. He died March 10, 1862, in the 70th year of his age, leaving five children, and a widow who still has her home in the house he built more than forty years ago.

In 1830, the division among Friends took place, and the meeting at Friendsville, then consisting of only about ten families, was broken up. Most of the Orthodox Friends left within a year or two after the division.

[The following tribute to Miss Richards, a successful teacher and army nurse, is from the pen of a grateful pupil.]

Elizabeth W., the only daughter of Daniel and Lydia Richards, accompanied her parents and brothers from Chester County, about 1820. Their first location was where J. Carrigan now resides; but afterwards the present H. Duffy farm within the borough limits.

Like the majority of early settlers, they secured the necessities of life by daily toil; yet, in their thirst for knowledge, evening always found the family with books and slates in hand.

Many were anxious to avail themselves of Miss Richards' success in imparting instruction; but her instinctive modesty and desire for a retired life prevented her becoming as widely known as her attainments deserved. She occasionally, after her parents' death, gave up her school, or changed its location, while she devoted her time and sympathies to aged and feeble relatives, in different States. Her mission to California in attendance on her youngest brother—the late Joseph T. Richards, Esq., of Montrose—was as heroic as it was sad.

The journey at that time—in 1852—was but rarely attempted by women, and almost only by those impelled by love and duty. Yet the privations were nothing compared to the changes of climate; the miasma on the Isthmus, which induced the Panama fever; the severing of home ties; the feeling of care and responsibility on her part; knowing, as far as human foresight could foresee, that her beloved charge could not live to be her protector on the return voyage; the trials of an invalid in a strange land; their peril on the rainy night, when their hotel at Sacramento was consumed by fire; their flight and exposure, only escaping with the bedclothes wrapped around them; their journey to a more genial southern clime; then the last sad scenes, and the lonely grave in which now rest the mortal remains of *her* only treasure in that far off El Dorado! Her reliance on the All-sustaining arm alone carried her through all and brought her home a composed, though sorrowing woman. She now turned her attention to her brother's orphan children. This duty occupied her time for several years.

On the breaking out of the rebellion, she offered her services to the Governor of Ohio (where she was then residing) as hospital nurse. She was assigned to duty at Camp Dennison; but the effects of the Panama fever had never been wholly eradicated from her system, and the exposure and hardships of camp life, together with her new duties, soon induced typhoid fever, which terminated her life while yet in its prime in the autumn of 1861.

The township was accommodated in 1831 by a second post-office at Ellerslie—the first being established at L. Chamberlin's in 1829.

The high hill just on the line dividing Choconut from Apolaccon was for twenty years or more a part of the estate of Samuel Milligan, Esq.; "Ellerslie," his residence, however, was on the

Apolacon side of the line. It is difficult to associate him with the latter township, as it was not erected until years after he left Choconut.

The year 1832 was one of lively interest to the inhabitants of Choconut, pending discussions relative to roads. The Milford and Owego turnpike was their principal communication with the outside world, but this was fearfully hilly, and other avenues were sought; the Choconut Creek and Wilkes-Barre turnpike was projected, but never constructed. Reference is elsewhere made to the jokes perpetrated at the expense of the former road; they were sometimes grim enough. A drover once remarked, "Every rod of the Owego turnpike ought to make a barrel of soap; for my cattle alone have lost grease enough there to come to that much."

In 1833 the strife was earnest to obtain the location of a railroad from the Lackawanna coal field up Martin's Creek to the East and Middle Branches of the Wyalusing, and down the Choconut, and from thence to Owego. S. Milligan, Esq., made an able speech in behalf of this route, but other measures obtained favor, and resulted in the construction of the present Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Railroad.

In the fall of 1833, John Mann, who had hitherto given his attention to his farm and saw-mill, opened a boarding-school at his residence. During the summer of 1834, the school was suspended for the purpose of erecting suitable buildings. In 1839 it was incorporated as "Mannington Academy." This institution was of service not only to Choconut, but to all the towns in the vicinity. The Choconut and Friendsville Lyceum had been established January, 1833, and both institutions combined to develop much hitherto latent talent.

John Mann's hearty efforts in the anti-slavery cause served it well, and abundantly heaped upon himself the adverse criticisms of others. He went to Great Bend in 1842, and taught school in the Bowes' mansion for a time, and soon after left the county.

The cause of temperance found early advocates in Choconut.

Edward White was probably the first Irishman (not Protestant), in the vicinity of Friendsville. He was a man of education, and it was owing to his influence probably, that other Irishmen located here. His residence was in Middletown, where Keenan brothers are now. His land was over a mile in extent.

The first Irishmen in the township were Thomas and Michael Donnelly, brothers-in-law, and Michael Donnelly second and third, uncle and nephew, distantly related to Michael Donnelly first. All came as early as 1827. Michael Donnelly who lives

on the flat where his father, M. Donnelly, 1st, located, was then a little boy. Michael D., first and second, are dead.

Michael Kane, Sen., Jeremiah O'Keefe, Dennis O'Day, and Michael Ryan were among the first twelve families. Within five years from this time a large number of Irishmen were here, and, among them, Edward Burke, who is still a resident of Chocanut. His son John, who studied at Harford, and graduated at Hamilton College, is now prosecuting attorney for eight counties in Iowa. Edward Clark came in 1832; has served five years as justice of the peace; Michael, son of Cornelius Hickey, who came in 1837, has also served five years, and is now postmaster and merchant at St. Joseph's.

In 1831, Edward White contracted for building a small Roman Catholic church at Friendsville, and supplied all the materials, the frame excepted. This church has since been greatly improved through the influence of Father Mattingly, and has a large, fine-toned bell—the only church bell in the vicinity.

St. Joseph's College, on the Chocanut Creek, was opened in the autumn of 1852, and was destroyed by fire on the night of January 1, 1864. "The building was insured, and cost about \$5000. The chapel was elegantly fitted up, and the college was in a most flourishing condition, there being nearly a hundred students in attendance. There were four regular professors engaged, assisted by four clergymen and a corps of subordinate teachers. The libraries were all destroyed, and were very valuable. Fortunately there were no lives lost, although a portion of the pupils lost their clothing."

The convent in the same vicinity was built about 1858, and was discontinued (removed to Susquehanna Depot) October, 1866.

The corner-stone of the cathedral, situated at the head of the valley, was laid in November, 1859. The cost of the building has been estimated at about \$25,000; but this is thought too low. The church records were burned with the college.

Fathers O'Reilly and Fitzsimmons were influential in establishing the college; but the cathedral was built by the efforts of the former, Father Fitzsimmons being then in Wilkes-Barre.

Among the later Friends were: Joshua Gurney (Orthodox), Stephen and Hannah Brown, Benjamin and Mary Battey, and members of the families of Mann, Griffin, and Taylor. In 1839, there were sixty-two members of the monthly meeting at Friendsville. The meeting-house, now gone, stood by the Friends' burying-ground about half a mile from the borough, on the road leading to the lake. In 1849, the meeting was discontinued in consequence of many removals of Friends, and this "Prepara-

tive" was attached to the monthly meeting at Scipio, N. Y. Only one member now resides in Choconut, and in Friendsville not one remains.

Friendsville was incorporated as a borough in 1846, with the following limits:—

"Beginning at a stake and stones on the lands of Joshua Gurney, in the township of Middletown, thence south 37° W. 320 rods across lands of said Gurney and those of William Carlon, deceased, to a stake and stones; thence north 53° W. 480 rods to a stake and stones on lands of Canfield Dayton in the township of Apalachian; thence north 37° east 320 rods to a stake and stones on lands of the estate of James Peironnet, deceased; thence south 53° east 480 rods across the corner of Choconut to the place of beginning;" just twice the original limits.

Very little, comparatively, of this tract is occupied by village lots. The residents are mainly located on Turnpike Street, which passes through the center, and between North and South Streets. The principal cross-roads lead to Binghamton, Silver Lake, and the Wyalusing. Two churches, a school-house, two or three stores, two hotels (J. Foster's was formerly Hyde's), a post-office, a wagon-shop, two blacksmith shops, two physicians' offices, and one justice's comprise the principal business of the place; farms extend within the borough limits.

CHURCHES.

The Choconut Baptist church was constituted January 29th, 1814, at the house of David Owen, by "messengers" from the churches of Bridgewater and Rush, Elder D. Dimock presiding. The original members were: Bela and Lucy Moore, Stephen, Daniel, and Keziah Platt, Silas P. and Amy Truesdell, Aurilla and Lydia R. Owen, and Achsah Doty. Of all the members who united during the first three years, not one was connected with this church forty years later. Meetings were held at the houses of Deacon Bela Moore and D. Owen, until 1817, when a school-house was occupied for a year or two; after that, quite regularly at the house of Edward Cox for four years, when a meeting "at the lower school-house near Brother Edward Cox's" is mentioned, the next year, at the school-house near Capt. Scoville's.

The meeting-house was built about 1831, on the farm of Edward Cox. Elder Dimock preached here occasionally until 1822, when Elder Joseph Bingham came; in 1825, Elder Worden preached here a part of the time, and a Thursday evening prayer-meeting was established. In December, 1826, a written covenant was adopted. Elder James Clarke became the pastor of the church, and resided near it for five years. His son, Aaron B., a summer resident of Montrose, was for thirty years a principal of public schools in New York and Brooklyn.

Elder Curtis came late in 1831; Elder Brand in 1833; Elder

C. G. Swan in 1834, for a time, and again in 1838, and then again in the spring of 1843, when there was a large accession to the church. In 1845, Elder Webster preached here, and there were then forty members in good standing; yet, ten years later, the church disbanded.

The causes of this decline, as given by Horace Bliss, then deacon and clerk of the church, were these: "That, though there have been nearly two hundred members since the organization, they were reduced to about thirty, of whom only seven or eight were male; about thirty having taken letters to Vestal, N. Y., and a number of others having sold their lands for various reasons, to immigrants, and removed; Presbyterian and Methodist churches had grown up around them; and the remnant left possessed small means and moderate talent, and were in the midst of a people to whom they could have no access in a religious point of view."

Deacon Bliss died in Silver Lake at the house of his daughter, Mrs. Andrew Rose.

The Silver Lake and Choconut Presbyterian Church, organized in 1816, is mentioned fully in the following chapter. The first house of worship was erected on Choconut Creek 1831-33; but it became a private residence, and was first occupied as such by Horace Bliss. It had no spire.

The Presbyterian church at Friendsville was built in 1841, and had once quite a flourishing congregation; and an academy, under care of the Presbytery, was established here.

For a long time there has been but occasional preaching here; the Episcopal service has been conducted by Rev. E. Mulford. The house is fast going to decay.

CHAPTER XXX.

SILVER LAKE.

DURING the first term of court in Susquehanna County, viewers were appointed to lay off a new township from the northern part of Bridgewater, to be called Silver Lake, after the name of one of the many beautiful sheets of water within its proposed limits.

In August, 1813, it was the first township added to the original ten townships of the county. Its eastern boundary was then the west line of Lawsville; its southern, Bridgewater; its western, Rush (from which Choconut was separated a little later); and its northern, the State line. Its area was thirty-five square miles

(5 by 7). In 1836, three or four square miles were set off to Forest Lake township.

From a map of surveys made prior to the settlement of this section, we learn that the tract just north of, and nearly surrounding, the lake was called Hibernia; this, if not prophetic, is at least not a misnomer in reference to the present cast of its population.

The whole township of Silver Lake was included in the one hundred thousand acres (or, by actual measurement, 248 tracts of 400 acres each), purchased by Dr. R. H. Rose, February 18th, 1809, of Anne, widow of Tench Francis; who bought of Elizabeth Jervis and John Peters, whose patent was obtained from the State in 1784. The purchase covered a tract at least thirteen miles in extent on the State line.

Perhaps to no one individual is Susquehanna County more indebted for the early development of its resources than to Dr. Rose. His father, a Scotch gentleman, and his mother, a lady of Dublin, came to the United States a little before the Revolutionary war, and settled in Chester County, Penna., where their son, Robert Hutchinson, was born. He received a liberal and accomplished education.

Dr. Rose said of himself (introductory to a sketch of his voyage to Italy, in the 'Port Folio,' September, 1822):—

"In the early part of my life I was accustomed to pass my winters in Philadelphia, and the rest of the year in the country. I spent the greater part of 1799 rambling in the wilderness which now forms the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri. I hunted with the Indians, slept in their wigwams, and was half tempted to remain with them.

"Among the Indians I had the reputation of being a good hunter, and capable of enduring much fatigue; but my companions in the city considered me as a sybarite, and seldom found me out of bed before noon. One reason of my indolence was that I had nothing to do. We may be 'stretched on the rack of a too easy chain.' I sometimes thought myself capable of better things.

"'I don't know what to do with myself,' said I to an acquaintance. He replied 'you are fond of poetry, painting, and music—go to Italy.'

"A few days after, he told me a ship was ready to sail, bound for Leghorn; and my trunk was soon on board."

From the sketch of the voyage which followed, it appears to have been no holiday affair. He set sail June 23d, and did not pass the Azores until the 29th of July. At Gibraltar the ship was attacked by privateers, and disabled so much as to oblige them to remain two months to re-fit; when again *en voyage*, they reached Leghorn November 3d (probably 1800).

The incident which led him, not long after his return, to come to this region, is given by one who heard it from his lips:—

"One morning he met Colonel Pickering on the street, when the latter asked: 'Rose, what are you going to do with yourself this summer?'

"'I have not decided.'

"'Come with me; I am going as government agent to look after those disputed lands.'"

"At that time Dr. Rose was 'a splendid shot,' and passionately fond of nature; and Colonel Pickering judged rightly that such an excursion would suit his taste. In recounting it, Dr. Rose said that he was so pleased that he determined on purchasing a tract, though at the time he had no thought of living in the country himself. It was in the course of some of the business transactions connected with the land, that he met the lady he afterwards married; and the fact that her physician said her health required a country residence, determined him to locate on the banks of the lovely mountain lake ever after associated with his name.

"He had studied medicine, and graduated in the University of Pennsylvania, to please his friends who thought he should have a profession; but it is said he never seriously intended to practice.

"His paternal property was sufficient, and his tastes were suited by the circle in which he moved. His musical abilities were of a high order, and his poetic and literary tastes made him a prominent member of the literary club of which Dennie (editor of the 'Port Folio,' until his death, January, 1812), Nicholas Biddle, Ewing, Cadwallader, and a few others were ornaments.

"The venerable Thomas Sully, one of our first as well as our oldest artists (deceased), told me he owed to him a debt of gratitude, for that he took him by the hand when he (Sully) was unknown, encouraged and patronized him, and was, he considered, the founder of his fortune."

Dr. Rose, as an author, is mentioned in a succeeding chapter. As early as 1804 or 1805 he must have made the excursion referred to; but before making his purchase he interested himself in the disposition of portions of the Drinker and Francis estates.

During the year 1809, he gathered about him a large number of workmen to fell trees near the lake, and to construct a saw-mill preparatory to the erection of his dwelling house.

His enterprises were a benefaction to those whose services he required, as they were paid for *in cash*—a rare return for labor then.

In 1809, Zenas Bliss came with a large family from Tolland County, Connecticut, and located in the vicinity of the Choconut Creek, but still within the bounds of Silver Lake township. He was the first justice of the peace appointed here.

"He was a *Puritan* of the old school. In early life he made a profession of the religion of Christ, and was ever afterward distinguished for consistent and devoted though unobtrusive piety. As a magistrate, he exhibited an enlightened sense of his duty as a guardian of the public peace. He believed that peace was as effectually promoted by discouraging unnecessary litigation as by inflicting the salutary penalty of the law when circumstances made that necessary."

In 1841, he removed to Leroy, Bradford County, where he died January 26th, 1861, in the 94th year of his age. His wife died there previously. His first vote was cast for Washington, his last for Lincoln.

His sons were six: Gordon (now in Connecticut), Horace, Edwin, Beza H., Clark W., and Chester. Horace, long a resident of Choconut, and deacon of the Baptist Church there, spent the last years of his life in Silver Lake. He died May 15, 1868,

aged 76 years. Beza and Clark are also dead. The latter was a physician at Elmira, New York. The youngest son is a physician at Watkins, New York. Of his two daughters, one is living at the latter place. Some of his grandchildren and great-grandchildren are at present residents of Silver Lake.

Dr. Rose held out inducements to industrious men to purchase farms in the vicinity. A number of the first settlers were Quakers, and from their location the largest lake in the township—one mile long and half a mile wide—derived the name by which it is most frequently called, Quaker Lake, though its prettier designation—Derwent Lake—should be revived.

Alpheus Finch, Peter Soule, and others were near it; and the township has not at present, to the tourist, a more inviting locality.

On the 10th of June, 1809, Alpheus and Sylvanus Finch, Jacob Hoag, Isaac Higgins, Charles Wooster, Peter Soule, and Philip Griffith arrived at Binghamton from Duanesburg, Schenectady County, New York, and from thence they proceeded by marked trees to Silver Lake. There was but one clearing (a Mr. Gould's), between Binghamton and the lake, except that begun by Dr. Rose.

The party did not bring in their families until 1810. They were two days in reaching Silver Lake from Binghamton.

The first house was erected by Alpheus Finch, on the east side of the Quaker Lake; the second by Philip Griffith, on the farm now owned by James Foster. Logs were rolled up to form the sides, and split logs served for floors, gable ends, and roofs.

Philip Griffith lived fifty-nine years in Silver Lake, until his death, November 21, 1868, in the 79th year of his age. His father, Jabez, came into the township a little later, and remained to the close of his life, March, 1819, aged 82 years.

The wife of Philip Griffith was a sister of Peter Soule and a daughter of Jonathan Soule, who came later. Her death occurred in 1857. They had ten children, and all married while their parents were living. The sons were, David, Jonathan, Benjamin, Isaac, Philip, Ezekiel, Absalom, and Charles. The only one of the family now in Silver Lake is Mrs. Joseph S. Gage.

Four of the sons of Jonathan Soule are living, though none are nearer the lake than Windsor, New York. He had seven sons and four daughters; one of the latter was the wife of Charles Wooster. He died June, 1842, aged 81.

In 1810, Philo Briggs, Joseph and John Whipple; in 1811, Mortimer Gage, and two or three years later, Henry Hoag, and William Miller, came to the township, all from Duanesburg, New York. Philo Briggs located on Sucker Brook, or the inlet of Quaker Lake. He died in 1859. Two of his daughters now

reside in the township—Mrs. Ansel B. Hill, and the widow of Michael Hill. The former has heard her mother speak of pounding corn for three weeks in succession, when it was the only article of food in the house.

Joseph Whipple first cleared the place where Dr. Lewis now lives, at Brackney. He afterwards moved to the northeast corner of Quaker Lake, where a small frame house had been built and vacated by Charles Wooster. After clearing a farm here, he sold it to Dr. Rose, and then bought one hundred acres and a saw-mill on Ranney Creek, where Jonathan Howard lives. This he left, again to subdue the forests on the farm where he now resides. He has raised sixty bushels of wheat from two bushels of seed, in Silver Lake. He is now (1871) an octogenarian.¹ He reared twelve children, all now living, for whom he never spent a dollar for medicine. When he first settled here he could say that he lived in a township where there was neither physician, lawyer, nor justice of the peace. The latter office was soon after filled by Zenas Bliss.

Mortimer Gage (or Gaige, as formerly spelled) was the first-comer of all the Gages in Silver Lake. There have been eighteen or twenty families of that name in the township at one time, and at present there are sixteen. There are also six more families just over the State line. All are descendants of four brothers, Simeon, Moses, Benjamin, and Joseph Gage, of Duanesburg, N. Y., of whom only Joseph resided here.

Dr. Rose had married, in 1810, a daughter of Andrew Hodge, Esq., of Philadelphia, and in 1811 he brought his bride to Silver Lake. For a time Mrs. R. boarded at Judge Thomson's, in Great Bend, "while some last touches were given to her new home; and when she took possession she was obliged to go on horseback, blazed trees alone marking the way. All the household stores were carried on the backs of horses led by men. One stalwart man declared he could carry as much of such stuff as any horse; and a good portion of the more fragile things were packed for his shoulders, and he was paid accordingly, to his great satisfaction, and doubtless to the material benefit of the china."

The first roads of the settlers were in general very bad. They were made by cutting the trees down close to the ground, and when the roots had in a measure decayed, a furrow was ploughed on the outside and the earth thrown into the middle of the road. But even this labor was then thought too great, as the first object of the settlers was to raise grain for their families.

The rapid influx of population, within the next three or four years, can best be shown by an advertisement of Dr. Rose's which

¹ Since deceased.

appeared August 26, 1814, in 'The Union,' the first paper printed in Union County, Pa., and issued at Mifflinsburg:—

"To SETTLERS.—The subscriber offers for sale a large body of lands on the waters of the Wyalusing, Choconut, Apolacon, and Wappasuning Creeks, in the townships of Silver Lake, Bridgewater, Choconut, Middletown, and Rush; county of Susquehanna (lately part of Luzerne county), and State of Pennsylvania. The timber is principally beech, mixed with sugar maple, hemlock, ash, birch, basswood, chestnut, cherry, and white pine. The soil is in general of a good quality, and the country remarkably healthy and well watered. There are several mills built, two post-offices established, and a considerable settlement formed which is rapidly increasing. Montrose, the seat of justice for the county, is placed on the southeastern part of the tract. It is about 130 miles from the city of New York, and 160 from Philadelphia. A turnpike is now making to the city of New York, which passes for twenty miles through the tract; and another is granted to Wilkes-Barre, on the way to Philadelphia, which passes twelve miles through it. The purchaser is suffered to take his choice of all the land unsettled. The price is three dollars per acre, except for the lots on the turnpikes, which are four dollars per acre. A reasonable credit will be allowed, an indisputable title, and deed of general warrantee will be given. For further particulars inquire of the subscriber, at the Silver Lake, on the premises.

ROBERT H. ROSE.

"We the subscribers have purchased farms on the lands of Robert H. Rose. The soil is in general of a good quality, deep and lasting; and the situation very favorable on account of market for our produce:—"

"Daniel Gaige, Peter Soule, Alpheus Finch, Oliver C. Smith, Isaac Howard, Mortimore Gaige, Abraham Gaige, Joseph Whipple, Philip Griffith, Peleg Butts, Charles Davis, Christian Shelp, Nathan Brewster, John Griffiths, Jonathan Ellsworth, Henry Ellsworth, Jacob Bump, George Bump, John Lozier, William Price, Lark Moore, Bela Moore, Joseph Addison, Charles Chalker, Daniel Chalker, Scott Baldwin, Richard Daniels, Zenas Bryant, Ephraim Fancher, Zephaniah Cornell, Moses Chamberlin, Benjamin Fancher, Caleb Bush, Asa Baldwin, Samuel Baldwin, Philip Blair, Thurston Carr, Elisha Cole, Isaac Soule, Hiel Tupper, Jabez A. Birchard, David Owen, Jeremiah Glover, Albert Camp, Daniel Heman, Ebenezer Coburn, H. P. Corbin, D. Taylor, Lemuel Walbridge, Leman Turrell, Canfield Stone, Philo Bostwick, Salmon Bradshaw, Billings Babcock, Robinson Bolles, Zenas Bliss, John C. Sherman, Philo Morehouse, Reuben Faxon, Darius Bixby, Asahel Southwell, Asa Brown, Edward Cox, Peter Brown, Amory Nelson, William Chamberlin, Daniel Chamberlin, Moses W. Chamberlin, Luther Dean.

"From Northumberland the distance is about 120 miles; the road is up the river, by Wilkes-Barre and Tunkhannock, at which places it leaves the river and passes by Montrose to Silver Lake. To Tunkhannock, 90 miles, the road is very good; the greater part of the rest is bad, but is rapidly improving."

In a handbill, dated September, 1818, the above is repeated with additional statements.

"There are now about five hundred families resident on the land." (This included nearly one-fourth of Susquehanna County.) Another statement gives four post-offices instead of two, as in 1814. The distance from New York is shorter by seven miles. A third turnpike is mentioned (the Great Bend and Cochection, completed in 1811, but not running through the Rose lands), as affording ready conveyance of produce to New York, as the Susquehanna River for that designed for Baltimore. The price

of lots on the turnpikes is rated at "*six* dollars, and for those off of them, five dollars per acre." The terms were, "the interest commencing at the time of the contract, to be paid at the end of three years, and one-fifth part of the principal annually afterwards, making in all eight years."

Notwithstanding the easiness of these terms, the settlers fell behind in payment; this had been the case especially in previous years, when, between April, 1813, and September, 1815, more than one hundred suits were entered by Dr. Rose against debtors, though his leniency is still remembered. "It reflects no little honor on his memory," writes one, "that notwithstanding the large amount owing to him from a thousand different hands, yet from first to last he was never known to sell by process of law the personal property of any for the purpose of enforcing the collection of a debt."

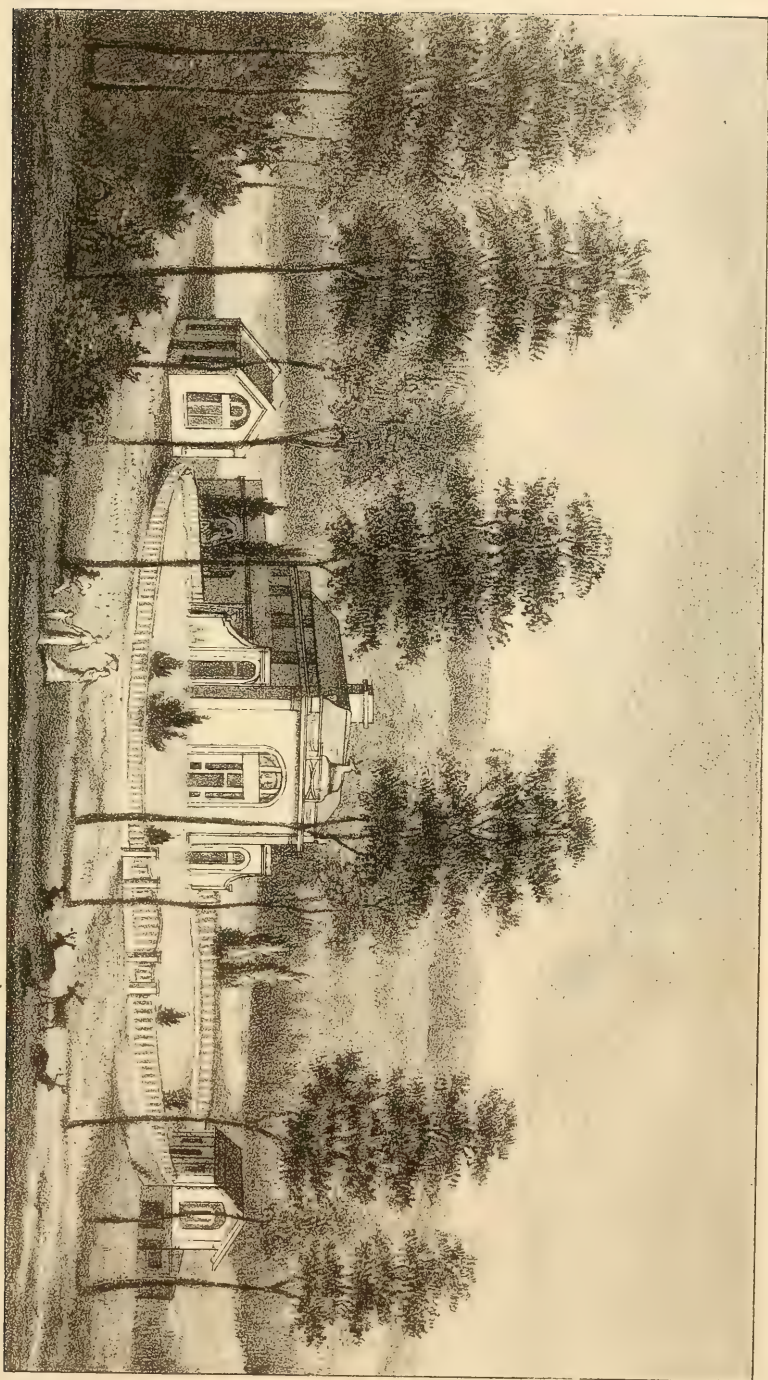
The handbill stated further:—

"The great improvements making in Susquehanna County offer strong inducements to mechanics of various kinds, especially to those who wish to add to their trade the advantages of a farm in a country where convenience of situation is united to a healthy climate and fertile soil.

"The emigration from the Eastern States to Susquehanna County for the last two or three years has been very considerable; and the industrious farmers from that quarter of the Union find a great advantage in the climate because of its southern situation. A certificate as to the quality and advantages of Susquehanna County might have been published, signed by all the settlers on the tract, but it has not been thought necessary to occupy the paper with more than the following." [Here were given fifty-five of the names included in the previous list.]

Certainly, nothing is stated here, but what has been abundantly confirmed by the experience and observation of all after-comers; but it is no less true, that the imagination either of the old world emigrants or of correspondents on this side of the water, gave to this portion of the new world a roseate hue which the dull reality did not justify. Dense forests were relieved but by blackened stumps and log-cabins, except the rare occurrence of an occasional frame-house, and perhaps the only instance of one *painted*, was that of the doctor's own. Not only in beauty of exterior, but in size and all its appointments, it was then unsurpassed in the county. An engraving of it appeared a few years later (June, 1816), in the 'Port Folio' (a copy of which we give), accompanied by the following remarks:—

"The mansion of which we give a view, is the residence of one of the earliest and the most brilliant of the supporters of this journal. When we view our poetical friend retiring from the bustle, the tricks, and the heartlessness of the world, to the tranquillity of sylvan shades, devoting the rich resources of his mind to the cultivation of the earth, we can scarcely conceive the exultation with which he may survey the wilderness of yesterday transformed into sloping lawns and smiling vales, covered with verdure and *blossoming with the rose.*"



Residence of the late ROBT H ROSE Esq.

SILVER LAKE P-1816.

The "sloping lawns" must have been confined to this locality of the township; and the "smiling vales" were so narrow, it was but a strip of blue that o'erarched the whole.

Previous to the organization of Susquehanna County (1810) only one road had been regularly cut out within the present township of Silver Lake. This was a State road from the twenty-ninth mile-stone to what is now Montrose. It was but two rods wide.

In 1813 a road from Silver to Choconut Creek near Edward Cox's is reported; and in August of the same year, upon the petition of Dr. Rose, the court appointed viewers to lay out a road from his house to Joseph Ross' on the North Branch of the Wyalusing. November 15th and 16th following, Leman Turrell, Philo Bostwick, Bela Moore, Joseph Ross, and Isaac Stone viewed the route the second time. It passed through the improvements of Zenas Bliss and Bela Moore, beginning near Silver Lake and running west to the line between that township and Rush (now Choconut), thence to Choconut Creek road and down it 80 rods, then N. W. and afterwards S. W. to the Milford and Owego turnpike (past Nathan Nelson's), then on the turnpike southeast 48 rods, then southwest to the road leading to Ross', half a mile east of his saw-mill bridge. This was "confirmed finally," January, 1814. Still the facilities for travel were limited until Dr. Rose cut a road through to Snake Creek at his own expense it is said. This connected with "the old Brunson road" in Lawsville, which reached Wiley Creek just within the limits of Great Bend, and followed it to its mouth. This was the first mail route to Great Bend from Montrose *via* Silver Lake.

John L. Minkler, Isaac and John Howard, and Oliver C. Smith were here prior to 1813. The last-named was a carpenter and joiner of superior skill for the times, and was the architect of the old court-house in Montrose. He built a grist-mill at the outlet of Quaker Lake. Many years later Joseph Gage, Sen., built another on the same site.

In 1813, Dr. Rose also had a grist-mill in addition to his saw-mill. Both were a little above the present saw-mill of his son, E. W. Rose. The following year he paid no taxes in Bridgewater; forty-two taxables had been taken from the latter by the erection of Silver Lake.

Alpheus Finch and Zenas Bliss were the first supervisors.

Peleg Butts was the first constable. He located near Mud Lake, but afterwards removed to Liberty, very near the State line, where he died.

Once he and his son Isaac, at work in the woods, in a time of scarcity of provisions, were obliged to relieve their hunger by scraping and eating the inside of birch-bark.

In 1814, Eli Meeker came, with his family, from Columbia

County, N. Y., and settled near Quaker Lake, where his son William (then twelve years old) is now located. His name is on the tax-list of 1813. He was a blacksmith, and had a shop near the lake shore. His sons were: William, Samuel, Nelson, Eli, Joshua, and Andrew, from whom have sprung numerous descendants. The sons of William were nine, of whom four reside north of the State line, as also, the six sons of Samuel. The descendants of Nelson and Joshua are in Michigan. Eli, Jr., resides in New York State, but three of his sons are in Silver Lake.

Aaron Meeker, a brother of Eli (Sen.), settled by the shore of the most northern lake in the township, and it has ever since been called by his name. He died July, 1850, leaving but one son, Reuben.

Indian relics, in the shape of sinkers, arrow-heads, hatchets, and pestles, were found by the early settlers in the vicinity of all the lakes, whilst ploughing.

The townships of Silver Lake and Choconut united, in 1814, to form a military company.

In 1815, the first school was taught in a log-house built by David Briggs, a cousin of Philo, on the farm now occupied by John Murphy. Nathaniel Matthews, from Connecticut, was the first teacher, and he was succeeded by Philip Griffith. The first school-house built by the township stood on the southwest corner at the cross-roads in the southern part of Brackney, and it was, for years, also a house of worship.

About 1815, Ephraim Strong built the house on Richmond Hill, which was popularly styled "Richmond Castle." The hill was named by the English settlers, after a locality in England. He kept here a store in a small way.

He was an active Presbyterian, to whose influence the first church of that denomination can trace its origin.

He removed in 1819 to the vicinity of Athens, Pa., where he purchased a large farm.

"Here he, with his numerous sons, made an opening in the pines, planted corn and potatoes, sowed buckwheat, built a snug frame-house, dug a well, and set out an orchard. Here this godly, intelligent, and well-educated household, the father a graduate of Yale College, and the mother a superior woman, lived several years. They removed to Hudson, Ohio."¹

Ansel Hill and Zina Bushnell came from Middlesex County, Conn., in 1815. For the last twenty-five years Martin Hogan has occupied the house built by the latter. Just after Mr. B. left it, an Englishman by the name of Walley lived there.

Esquire Hill built near Mr. B., but removed after two years

¹ Mrs. Perkins' 'Early Times on the Susquehanna.'

to the corners, where, opposite the present residence of his son, Ansel B., he kept a tavern for ten years. He died in 1866.

Joseph Macomber had occupied the same place just previous. Coggshall and P. Griffith afterwards kept the house. Still later, when the Binghamton mail was established on the Chenango turnpike, a Mr. Parker provided accommodations for passengers and horses at this point. Three of the four corners have been occupied by dwelling-houses.

In 1816, Thomas Watters, a brushmaker, and native of Ireland, lived in a log-house here. An old well is still seen near the spot.

Jesse Coon, Almerin Turner, and Roderick Richards came about 1816. Mr. Richards, in 1817, erected the first distillery in the township, just back of the present residence of Joseph S. Gage's. A blessing in the form of a spring of pure water now marks the spot where formerly the "Worm of the Still" was a curse.

A stone still was afterwards built by Rogers, Brown & Clarke. Both were closed in 1821. Previous to this Henry Denison and family, from Westbrook, Conn., had come in and left.

Charles McCarty, an Irishman, was here in 1816.

The first Roman Catholic did not come until three or four years later.

During 1817-18 there was an accession to the township of at least twenty-five taxables. In 1819 there were nearly forty. These were principally members of

THE BRITISH SETTLEMENT.

In 1818 a meeting was held in Philadelphia by a number of Englishmen, whose object was the selection of an eligible spot for a settlement, which would combine advantages for both farmers and mechanics.

Many had crossed the water with the view of settling on the western prairies, but unfavorable reports of the climate, water, etc., had determined them to seek a situation for the contemplated establishment "on the eastern side of the mountains, and within a reasonable distance from some of the seaports, in which all the surplus produce of the mechanic's labor might be vended, where the toil of the farmer would be rewarded by a good price for his produce, and where, in consequence of the country not being filled with settlers, land might yet be had at a low price."¹

All these advantages appeared to be combined in the lands offered for sale by Dr. Rose, and it was resolved, unanimously, to write to him, to ascertain the terms on which he would sell to a society of British emigrants.

¹ 'Letters from the British Settlement,' by C. B. Johnson, M.D.

On the receipt of a reply from the Doctor, a meeting of the emigrants was convened, and it was determined that a committee of five should proceed to Susquehanna County to examine the lands carefully, and to make a report of their situation, soil, water, etc. The result was a unanimous opinion in favor of the place; and a contract was made November 15, 1818.

Dr. Charles B. Johnson, from Shropshire, England, one of the committee, was among the first company. He located at the northeast corner of Quaker Lake, and occupied the house previously mentioned as built by Charles Wooster, on what has since been known as the Main place. It was removed some years later, and is now an out-house on William Meeker's farm.

Dr. Johnson appears as the author of a book, whose statements led many other Englishmen into this section, and who remained no longer than he—three or four years. He removed to Binghamton, where he died, in 1835, aged forty-seven years. He is said to have been a skilful surgeon; his family possessed considerable talent in the use of the brush and pencil.

From a leader in the 'Montrose Gazette,' April 24, 1819, we glean the following:—

"The tide of emigration is fast setting into this country. The British settlement bids fair to advance the agricultural interest in this part of the State. Large purchases are making by the hardy cultivators of the soil from England. We trust those who purchase here in preference to traveling to the western wilds will enhance their own interests and those of our county generally. Indeed, we know of no part of the country better calculated for the English farmer than this; our lands are cheap, our soil is good, our waters pure, our markets quick, and our climate healthy. Nothing is wanting but industry to make Susquehanna County rich and flourishing."

A gentleman who visited Silver Lake in 1821 published in the 'Village Record,' of Chester County, Pa., the following item:—

"From four and a half acres of land that I was on in the neighborhood of Silver Lake, which was farmed with potatoes on shares, were raised 1600 bushels. The owner gave the laborer \$300 as his part of said crop. It (Susquehanna County) is famous for all kinds of roots and garden stuff."

Anthony North, John Deakin, William Lawson, John Caslake, Thomas Rodgers, Charles Innes, James Resseignie, Thomas Rich, and Samuel Hill were among the English settlers of this period. They were generally located in the vicinity of Quaker and Mud Lakes, which they called Derwent and Tenbury Lakes—reflecting credit upon their taste. Here they began a *city*, which they named Britannia. It was laid out in lots, which were quite narrow on the road, but were one mile in extent. Nearly all the common trades were represented by the skill of the settlers of 1819, and for a few years following.

The British Emigrant Society, established here, offered to give

a half-acre lot on the turnpike, cleared, to each of the first fifty mechanics who should build a house on the same, and commence his trade. The society required that the fronts of all the houses and shops erected in the town should be built according to the designs furnished by their architect, and should be painted. The sides, back, and interior might be finished or not, as the parties concerned might choose, and every house might be on such a plan and of such a size as best suited the convenience or purse of the builder. Ground was given for the site of public buildings, and a fund is mentioned as having been appropriated for them. It was the wish of the society to introduce a number of good farmers, and to settle industrious mechanics in towns in numbers sufficient to consume the farmer's produce. Factors, they promised, should be established in Philadelphia and New York, to whom wagons should be regularly sent with such of the manufactured articles as it might be desirable to sell there; and to bring back such imported articles as should be necessary for their consumption.

Every plan contemplated by the society seems to have been feasible; but it is probably true that the English mechanic, or farmer even, was unfitted by his previous experience to be a pioneer in a country whose forests and hills were sufficiently appalling to New Englanders. The improvements of the latter were purchased by Dr. Rose and sold to the society, or to its individual members, but, as in all cases the farms were but partially cleared, and the two or three turnpikes of the county hardly counterbalanced the discomforts of the common roads, the high hopes of the incomers were gradually dissipated, if not suddenly crushed, and there were few who remained, or whose descendants are still in the township.

Anthony North remained, though his discouragements were equal to any.

He built a framed-house, but soon after he moved into it a whirlwind lifted the roof and carried it off so suddenly that his family were not aware of their loss until they retired for the night, when they found the bricks or stones of the chimney had fallen on a bed where a sleeping infant was lying; but, strange to say, although they were all around it, not one had struck it. The roof being painted, the shingles were recognized when picked up in the vicinity of New Milford. A pair of Mr. North's "short breeches" were found on the limb of a tree in Liberty.

Mrs. N. is still living; her husband died within a few years. Their residence was at the head of Mud Lake.

John Caslake, a man of considerable information, and a bachelor well advanced in life, built the house near the bridge at Mud Lake, in which Thomas Rodgers, 1st, lived and died; and which

Thomas Rogers, 3d (grand nephew of the latter), now owns and occupies. Here Mr. C. died prior to 1830.

Adjoining his place on the north was the earliest location of James Spratt; and above the latter was that of Thomas Rodgers, 1st; both built later near the top of the hill east of the lake. The farm of Thomas Rodgers, 2d (a nephew of the latter), partly covers the estate formerly owned by James Resseguie, as also one of two lots owned then by John Craik and Walter Scott. The last named died here. He was the father-in-law of A. Waldie.

John Craik was an intelligent Scotchman, whose disappointment in the supposed attractions of the township did not drive him from it. He also died here; and some of his family are still in the vicinity.

North of these settlers was Dr. Charles W. Bankson, who came from Philadelphia. The house built by his widow was afterwards occupied as a dwelling and store by William Hewson, who had previously lived in "Richmond Castle;" and after he left it was occupied as a store by Joseph Stanley. Dr. B. practiced in Silver Lake a number of years.

Dr. Emerson, also from Philadelphia, was probably the first physician here. He was located on the west side of the road.

William Armstrong settled just below T. Rogers, 1st.

On the site of the present residence of A. B. Hill one Rumley, a tailor, lived; the house was afterwards burned.

Samuel Hill lived near the corners, and had a fine flower garden a little further north, which gained a notoriety from its being a rare instance in which a busy farmer gave attention to anything but essentials.

For many years the people worked hard at clearing their farms, or at their various trades, involving constant manual labor; and, though many of them were men of intelligence, they paid little attention to, and thought less of the exterior graces either in their manners or surroundings. It must be conceded, however, that they possessed elements of character well adapted to cope with the difficulties inseparable from their position. Greater sensitiveness on their part would have induced them to return to their former homes, leaving to stronger nerves and resolution the conquest of a land now enjoyed by their posterity. Still, the early exodus of some of the British settlers was doubtless a positive loss to the social, if not the material interests of the country.

Patrick Griffin and family were here as early as 1821, on the place afterwards owned by Mr. Main. Captain Gerald Griffin, his son, was a retired British officer, in England, on half pay, from whom the principal support of the family was at that time derived. They are remembered as possessing true gentility, and

great loveliness of character. Patrick G., Jr., died in California in the fall of 1872.

Edward White, a model Irish gentleman of the old-school, came in a little later than Mr. Griffin. "He had married the eldest sister of Gerald Griffin, on which occasion the joy-bells of Limerick were rung to honor the young bride and groom. This eminently worthy couple were the first apostles of the Catholic church in Susquehanna County, and the adjacent parts of New York State."

James W. White, eldest son of Edward, was a lawyer, and afterwards Judge of the Superior Court of the City of New York. He has been styled "one of the noblest Irish-Americans of our times."

The daughters of Edward W. were highly educated; and, a few years later, they established in Binghamton a boarding-school for young ladies, which was very successful. The institution was maintained until the death of Mrs. White, in 1851.

The family was then broken up; two of the daughters entering nunneries. Edward W. died December, 1863.

Henry and Sackville Cox, Irish gentlemen, married two daughters of Thomas Peironnet (English), of Friendsville. In 1822 Sackville was in Silver Lake.

The first Roman Catholic priest in the county was Father Francis O'Flynn, of the order La Trappe, and of "noble descent." His sister, Mrs. Fitzgerald, a true lady, was with himself the center of a large circle of the cultivated and refined. Indeed, at no later period has a larger number of such persons resided in Silver Lake and vicinity.

An agricultural society was formed in 1820. From the diary of Philip Griffith, now in the possession of his daughter, Mrs. J. S. Gage, we have a few items relative to affairs in the township at this early day, and among them mention of the introduction, by Dr. Rose, of large numbers of sheep into the township. On the 4th of July, 1832, Edward White and Philip Griffith brought to him one thousand three hundred and fifty-two sheep; in August of that year he had nearly two thousand—eleven of the number having that month been killed by wolves. At a later period he had five thousand sheep and numerous cattle.

In 1834, Philip Griffith removed to the vicinity of Dr. Rose's residence, and kept the post-office accounts, and also those of the estate. A farm hand was then paid but fifty cents a day. In 1836, oak plank was worth one cent per foot; shingles, three dollars per one and a half thousand.

The English had come and gone, when an experiment was made, about the year 1836, by Dr. Rose, to form a colony of *colored* farmers, but it failed.

Upon the completion of the Chenango Canal, and after suspension of labor upon the North Branch, the Irish who had been employed in their construction were easily induced to purchase land and settle down as farmers; and in general they have been very successful, many having arrived at competency, if not wealth. Were *the roads* of the township at all their earnest care, and kept like those of Jackson or Gibson, the farms of Silver Lake would not only appear to far greater advantage, but their value would be doubled. As it is, the difficulty of access gives to this section an appearance of dreariness, and the jaded traveler's aching bones make him wish himself well out of the township.

One of the later colonists was Michael Ward, formerly of Longford County, Ireland. Joseph, his son, is the present justice of the peace in Silver Lake.

James McCormick, from Tipperary County, settled about forty years ago in the northwestern part of the township, near where J. McCormick, Jr., now lives. J. D. Murphy, James Foster, and Timothy Sweeney came soon afterwards.

By degrees the descendants of the New England settlers left, and those of the Irish rapidly filled their places, until the latter are now a large majority of the population. In one school-district there is but one man of American parentage.

The streams of the township are all small, the largest being only the outlets of the principal lakes. The latter were found bordered with the native laurel. Dr. Rose brought pickerel from Lathrop's to stock Silver Lake, and a few were put into Quaker or Derwent Lake. They ate the other fish—trout, bull-heads, etc. Two trout weighing together sixteen pounds, were once caught just at the outlet. Speckled trout are sometimes now found in Ranney Creek.

The source of Silver Creek is in the lake of the same name, though it has a feeder in Cranberry Lake, in the same vicinity. In 1829, Dr. Rose constructed a stone-dam on this creek, not far from T. Holley's, remains of which can yet be seen. For some years a woolen factory was established there. "Snow Hollow" lies just east of it, through which the road continues to the salt spring in Franklin. Two or three families of the name of Snow resided there.

In 1834, this section was the scene of a wolf hunt. At a later date even than this, the forests were not entirely deserted by deer which, in earlier times, had been abundant. From a newspaper of 1839, we learn that E. W. Rose, then a mere lad, shot a deer near the lake, which weighed 206 pounds.

Beech, maple, and chestnut were on the ridges; hemlock along the valleys; the last is still abundant, though heavy drafts are made upon it.

Thirty years ago a party of pedestrians, who started from

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T SINCLAIR & SON LITH. PHILA

Philadelphia, for Niagara, Williamsport, and Genesee Falls, gave to the 'Philadelphia Inquirer' a description of their tour, which was published by the editor, with some remarks of his own, descriptive of their return, from which we take the following:—

"On entering again the wilds of Pennsylvania, they were startled and delighted with the appearance of Silver Lake—a scene which they describe to have been as beautiful, at that time, as the fabled island of Calypso. They reclined, for the purpose of taking their noon-day meal, under a grove of beech trees, and observed on the border of the lake a number of handsome buildings. While they were looking at them a gentleman (Dr. Rose), whose residence was in the midst, came forward, and in the most courteous manner invited our travelers to his hospitality. The invitation was accepted, and while they tarried there (three days), they were highly gratified not only with the scenery—the lake looking like a tranquil mirror bordered with a variety of verdure and foliage, alternated with rock and mountain—but with the curiosities and elegancies within; such as urns from Thebes, platters from Herculaneum and Pompeii, statues and pictures, and a library of 4000 volumes of the choicest literature."

The enthusiasm exhibited in this fragment is not greater than that felt by the compiler on seeing Silver Lake for the first time, a few years later. The view was obtained from the east, and seemed like a glimpse of fairy-land. No less than nine marble statues ornamented the exterior of Dr. Rose's residence, which, in the engraving given in this work, are but indistinctly seen.

These, with the turrets, and the delightful little summer-houses by the lake, which was environed by a path behind a screen of laurels, were novelties that needed not a lively imagination to render them pleasing in the extreme. But its palmy days were over. The genius that had planned, and the hand of taste that had executed so much that combined to charm the eye and attract the soul, were then no more; and desolate hearts took little note of neglected grounds, except to feel more keenly the loss they had suffered.

NOTE.—The first engraving (a few pages preceding), shows the front of the house as originally built, or as it appeared in 1816. In the second engraving we see the rear of the same house with the extensive additions made to it of a later date.

Dr. Rose died February 24th, 1842, in the 66th year of his age, leaving a widow, three sons, and four daughters. One of the latter married Mr. William Main, of New York. Thirty-five years ago he was residing at the northeast corner of Derwent Lake; the road, since vacated, then passed his house, which is now occupied by Thomas Patton. At the time of the *morus multicaulis* mania he gave some attention to the cultivation of these trees and rearing of silkworms. Several attempts were made, but soon given up, by other parties.

Another daughter became the wife of Rev. Francis D. Ladd, pastor at a later period of a church in Philadelphia. Mrs. L. and her husband died some years ago. Mrs. Rose died at Phila-

delphia, in 1866. The oldest son, Edward W., resides upon the estate, his house commanding a fine view of the lake; but neither this nor that of the late Andrew Rose, his brother, near it, are modeled in any respect after the paternal residence, which, to the great loss of the community as well as the family, then absent, was consumed by fire, together with its contents, April 30th, 1849.

In the early agitation of the subjects of temperance and anti-slavery, Silver Lake was alive and interested. A petition, signed by I. Gage and about twenty others of the township, was read by ex-president Adams in the United States House of Representatives. The correspondent of the 'New York Express' describes the scene: "Ears, eyes, and mouths were opened in astonishment, and the little monster was laid on the table without debate. Mr. Davis (Jeff.?), attempted to revive his resolution, proposing that all anti-slavery petitions be laid upon the table *without reading*, without reference, and without debate. But it was no go."

There are ten school-districts in the township. Joseph Gage, Sr., sold land to Gilbert Tompkins, of New York, which the latter sold, in 1848, to J. W. Brackney, from Prattsville, New York, who erected there an extensive tannery and a fine residence. He drew about him a community of laborers whose dwellings formed a small village, called Brackney. A post-office is established here. The first grist-mill at this point was built for Mr. B. August, 1850. The business he pursued has since passed into other hands.

But two of the first settlers of the township are living—Abigail, widow of Mortimer Gage, and Peter Soule. The last named is in Duaneburg, New York. Betsey, widow of Jacob Hoag, and Betsey, widow of John L. Minkler, both died recently.

RELIGIOUS.

The "Church of Christ in Silver Lake and Choconut" was organized February 16th, 1816, by Rev. E. Kingsbury, Rev. Oliver Hill, and John Thacher, council. The first communion service was held on the Sabbath following, at Dr. Rose's office. There were but seven constituent members; four others were present who had not yet received letters of dismission from other churches. Persons proposed for admission to this church had to stand propounded four weeks, a rule applying to professors as well as others. This was pronounced "anti-presbyterial" years later, by the Rev. Daniel Deruelle.

Prior to 1823 the Presbyterian (or Congregational) ministers who had preached here were, the Revs. E. Kingsbury, O. Hill, M. M. York, G. N. Judd, — King, and Enoch Conger. Only the last named appears to have been a stated supply; the others

came but semi-occasionally, to administer the Lord's Supper. During Mr. Conger's labors, on June 22d, 1822, twenty-one persons were received into the church on profession of faith; but with this addition the whole number of communicants, in 1823, was but thirty-one, and but twenty-nine the following year. A majority of these resided in Choconut; and to accommodate them the first church edifice was built on Choconut Creek.

In 1833, Rev. Mr. Smith was with them. Rev. Levi Griswold had preceded him; and during the previous few years Rev. Burr Baldwin and Rev. Daniel Deruelle had preached here occasionally. Later, Rev. John Sherer supplied the pulpit frequently. Ephraim Strong, Daniel Chamberlin, Gordon Bliss, and Eben Griswold were deacons of this church.

The last record concerning the old church was made March 20th, 1837. Seventy-one members in all had been connected with it.

The first Presbyterian church within the bounds of Silver Lake township was built in 1846, on a knoll sloping to the western shore of Mud Lake.¹

Many of the community contributed liberally to swell the amount advanced for this purpose by Mrs. Rose and family.

John Simpson, an upright man and earnest christian (in whose hands Dr. Rose at his death had left the management of his estate), had exerted himself to bring together the scattered members of the former church, and what Ephraim Strong had been to that, Mr. Simpson became to the new church—its pillar. He died November 8th, 1848, in the fifty-fourth year of his age.

The church was re-organized March 21st, 1847, with the following members: Mrs. Jane Rose and four daughters, John Simpson and wife, Henrietta Craik, W. Coon and wife, Eliza North, and one other whose name is unascertained.

Rev. Francis D. Ladd was then the pastor of the church, and for several years afterward. Rev. Thomas Thomas was his successor. Rev. Mr. Palmer, of Broome County, N. Y., supplies the pulpit at present. Nathaniel H. Wakeley and Thomas Patton are the elders of the church.

The Methodist society was organized as early as 1818, by Elder Griffin, but it soon declined, and was not revived until 1831, at which time Elder Solon Stocking occasionally labored here.

Rev. Charles Perkins and Rev. J. R. Boswell were here at "the time of the great reformation," in 1840; previous to which there were but seven members. The Griffith family were among the early members.

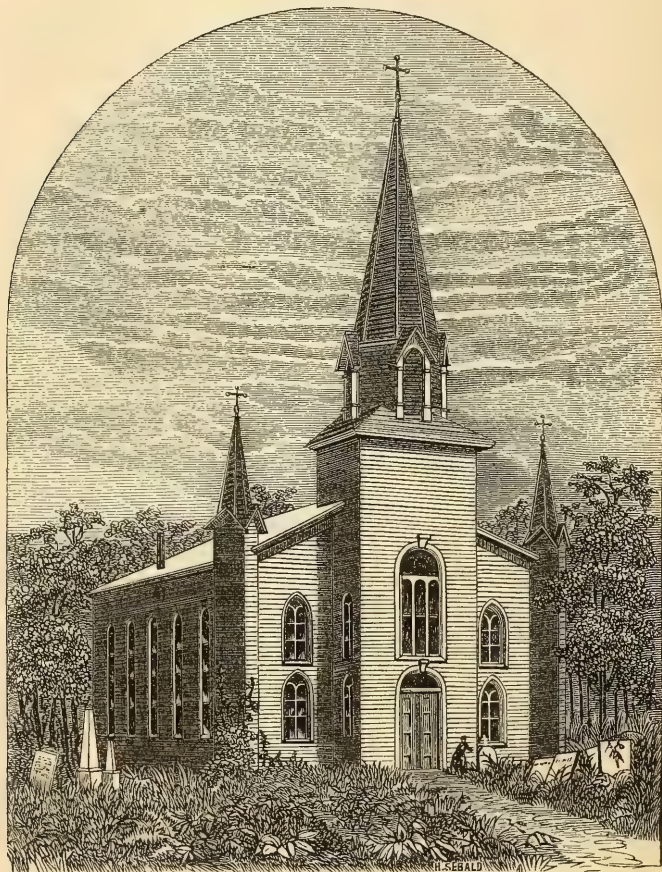
¹ Such a misnomer should no longer be allowed. Above the bridge a prettier sheet of water is not to be found: why not revive the old name—Tenbury Lake?

Elder Morgan Ruger, stationed at Brackney, died 1851.

The church edifice was begun April, 1846, and was dedicated February, 1847. It is now some rods north of its first location, which was at the corners below Brackney.

The first Roman Catholic chapel was built at the head of Ranney Creek, on land of Mr. Fitzgerald (a nephew of Father O'Flynn). It was the first of that denomination in the county.

Fig. 24.



R. C. CHAPEL OF ST. AUGUSTINE.

It was destroyed by fire April 3d, 1870; but a new structure already takes its place, of which we give an illustration. The first service was held in the new church on Christmas day of 1871.

CHAPTER XXXI.

JACKSON.

IN 1814, on petition of John Hilborn and others, for a division of the original township of Harmony into two equal parts—six miles north and south, by nine miles east and west—the court appointed Asa Dimock, Philip J. Stewart, and John Kent, viewers; and their report, setting off the lower half as a new township to be called Jackson, was accepted, and finally confirmed, December, 1815. A petition in May previous, asking to have it named Greenfield, was not granted, as the viewers failed to report.

The hero of New Orleans *might* have been immortalized without the help of this new township; however, its few inhabitants chose to call it by his name, and not without some show of consistency, as his political principles were largely predominant for many years, within its bounds, though they are not inherited to any great extent by its present voters.

During the war of the rebellion, Jackson contributed 114 volunteers for the Union army, a number of whom sacrificed their lives in the service.

The area of Jackson was diminished exactly one-half by the erection of the eastern part into the township of Thomson. This, in turn, has been divided, the southern portion now being the northern part of Ararat; thus the farms of Hezekiah Bushnell and Nathaniel West, which are now in the latter township, were once in Thomson, and previous to that, in Jackson; still earlier, when first occupied, the same farms were in Harmony.

There are no hills of any very great elevation. The two highest points are in the northern part of the township; their summits being not more than half a mile apart, and the Lenox and Harmony turnpike skirting their common base. That on the west side is called Mount Hope; that on the east is known by the name of Hog-back.

No stream courses the entire length of the township in any direction, though there are several of some note which "head" in the vicinity of these hills. First, the Canawacta, which first runs east, then northeast, then north, and finally northwest, and empties into the Susquehanna at Lanesboro. It is said a party of Indians, of the Conewaga tribe, were accustomed to hunt and fish in this vicinity, and that the creek took its name from this

circumstance. Second, Drinker Creek, which runs north, then northwest, and empties into the river at Susquehanna Depot. Third, Meadow-brook, which runs westerly, and empties into the Salt Lick near H. Burritt's store in New Milford. Fourth, the West Branch of the Tunkhannock, which runs through Burrows Hollow and thence through the east part of Harford. Fifth, the Middle Branch, which runs south, and after leaving Jackson runs through Gibson, etc., emptying into the Susquehanna at Tunkhannock. It is thought a point might be found near the summit of Mount Hope from which a circle with a radius of one mile would include the heads of all these streams. Mitchell's Creek, and a smaller stream known to surveyors as "Third Run," have their sources in the northwest corner of Jackson, and reach the river in Great Bend and Oakland. Butler Lake is the largest sheet of water in the township; being half a mile wide, and more than a mile long. Its outlet joins Van Winkle's Creek near the western border of Gibson, and eventually enters the Tunkhannock. There was once a beaver-meadow which is now covered by a mill-pond east of Butler Lake.

Beech, maple, and chestnut constitute the principal timber, as the pine and hemlock have been, in a great measure, transported to market. There were formerly noted yields of maple sugar. In early times, when farmers were clearing their farms, wheat was a pretty sure crop. Jairus Lamb then sowed two bushels of seed wheat which yielded, in one season, one hundred and five bushels—probably the largest crop ever raised from the same quantity of seed, in the county. Now, wheat does not do so well, and comparatively little is raised; the attention of farmers being given principally to the making of butter, the good quality of which usually commands as good a price as that of any other township. With a dairy of seven cows, Oliver Clinton made and sold for the New York market in 1868, 1418 pounds of butter, netting \$635. Besides the butter sold, 50 pounds were made for winter use, and a family of seven persons was also supplied with butter and milk during the season.

* Large crops of vegetables are annually grown. In 1869, Charles T. Belcher raised seven and one-half bushels of Early Rose potatoes from seven seed potatoes, and from half a bushel of Harrison white potatoes he raised forty-five bushels. J. H. Lamb gathered, from less than two acres of ground, seventeen large wagon loads of pumpkins, nearly all of them being yellow and ripe.

The township presents to the eye of the traveler a series of beautiful landscapes, which the smoothness of the roads permits him to enjoy undisturbed. Perhaps in all the county there are no better roads than those of this township; the cross-roads even

average better than the great thoroughfare—almost the only turnpike of the county that is kept in good repair.

The old "Harmony Road" was laid out in 1812, from the Susquehanna River at Lanesboro, to Dimock's Corners in Herrick, where it intersected the Great Bend and Coshecton turnpike. The Jackson turnpike, or as it is known by its charter, the Lenox and Harmony turnpike, was laid out in 1836, from the Tunkhannock Creek in Lenox, to the Susquehanna River at Lanesboro; and must intersect the old Harmony Road near the northern Methodist Episcopal church in Jackson. It was on this road, at a point about three miles north of this church, that Oliver Harper was shot.

It is said there is not an acre of unseated land in the township.

SETTLEMENT.

The first clearing was made near the line of Gibson, as early as 1809, by two sons of George Gelatt, who had purchased just below the line himself; but all soon after sold out to Elkanah Tingley, and moved to what is now called Gelatt Hollow, on the Tunkhannock Creek in Gibson. Mr. Tingley afterwards gave these lots to his sons Daniel and Milton, who lived here much respected by all, and here they died. Another clearing of ten acres was made very early by a man named Booth, who left for Connecticut after paying \$20 on his contract, and never returned. For many years it was called "the Yankee lot." It adjoined that of Obed Nye. George Gelatt, Jr., probably built the first house (of logs) in Jackson, but he had moved away prior to the arrival of the first actual settlers—David and Jonathan Bryant, Jairus Lamb and Uriah Thayer. They came together from Vermont in the spring of 1812, and in the fall returned to spend the winter. Early in 1813 they again came prepared to make a permanent home in Jackson (then Harmony).

In addition to the above-mentioned settlers, Hosea Benson, from New Hampshire, and Daniel Tingley, were in Jackson previous to the arrival, on December 20th, 1814, of Stephen Tucker and Joseph Bryant. Mr. Tucker was then in his twenty-first and Mr. Bryant in his eighteenth year, and both had walked from Vermont to seek their fortunes in a new country. Major Joel Lamb (father of Jairus), Martin Hall, Captain Levi Page, and Moses B. Wheaton came from Vermont, February, 1815. Major Lamb took up a large tract of land. The first season, he cleared and put into wheat twenty-five acres. His family remained for some time at the old "Skyrin House," in Gibson Hollow. Daniel Chase, a Free-will Baptist elder, and his son John, with their families, came in 1816. In September of that year, Joseph and Ichabod Powers, sons of Hazard P. of Gibson,

each selected a lot, cleared some land, and built a log-cabin. Ichabod soon after sold his improvement to his brother, and left the township. Joseph then occupied it, and sold his first clearing to I. Hill.

Joseph P. married, in June 1816, Eunice, daughter of Jonathan Moxley, of New Milford. She died August, 1863, in her seventy-third year, and Mr. P. in April, 1864, aged nearly seventy-five years. About two-thirds of his life were spent in Jackson.

Ichabod and Ephraim Hill, Calvin Corse, Nathaniel Norris, and Obed Nye were here in 1816; in 1817, Asa Hall, Russel and Torrey Whitney; in 1818, Pelatiah Gunnison; in 1820, Henry Perry; in 1822, Judah and John S. Savory; in 1826, Reuben Harris; and in 1828, Wm. H. Bartlett.

About forty families followed Mr. Bartlett from Vermont, and, indeed, the most of the settlers who preceded him were from the same State. They liked the country because it resembled the one they had left. The locality was, for a long time, known as "The Vermont Settlement," and as early as 1817 it was thus designated on the court records, when a road was laid out to it from Ararat, which, too, was then only a settlement.

Ephraim Hill,¹ Stephen Tucker, David Bryant, Captain Levi Page, Martin Hall, Obed Nye, and Job Benson are the oldest men of the earlier settlers now living in Jackson. The only survivors among the women are Mrs. David Bryant and the widow of Moses B. Wheaton. Mrs. Wheaton has been the mother of fourteen children, twelve of whom are still living. Mrs. Stephen Tucker died April 5, 1871, aged nearly seventy-eight years. She was married February, 1816, in Vermont, and the summer following settled on the farm in Jackson, where she died. "As one of the early pioneers, she bore an honorable and useful part, rearing nine children to maturity, eight of them being still alive. She united with the Gibson and Jackson Baptist church at an early day, and was a quiet but stable member."

Daniel Tingley was the first man married while a resident of the township. Jairus Lamb married in Vermont before returning to Pennsylvania in 1813, and commenced housekeeping at Captain Potter's in Gibson, and lived there until a house was made ready for him in Jackson.

Mr. Lamb built the first *framed*-house early in 1814; in what is now Jackson; having previously lived a short time in a log-house with David Bryant. He has probably built and occupied more houses than any other man in the county; in Jackson he has built seven; in Thomson, two; in Alleghany County, N. Y., two; and in New Milford, one; all occupied by himself and family. He has also built, for his own use, nine barns, two pot-

¹ Since deceased, at the age of ninety-one years.

asheries, and one blacksmith shop; and in company with Russel Whitney, he built the first saw-mill in Jackson; drawing the plank for the floors four miles through the woods, from Burrows' Hollow. He made the shingles for all the houses himself.

Major Joel Lamb, his father, who came in later, was uncommonly large in stature and breadth, measuring two feet across the shoulders; and "made large tracks." On one occasion he walked to Philadelphia (carrying his shoes in his hands) to see the land-agent, with whom he contracted for four hundred acres of land. A person following him was attracted by the large footprints, and expressed his astonishment to a bar-room crowd, asking if any one had seen a giant. No one being prepared to answer the question, the major, who was in the room, rose in his dignity and thus gave him the desired information. But, if rude in exterior, at heart he was a gentleman. Enterprising and intelligent, he possessed the ability to command. His physical strength made him "worth half-a-dozen common men at a log-raising," and as assistants were few, his aid was always in demand; and his voice and example would nerve others to bring up the heaviest log to its place.

Moses B. Wheaton came into Jackson with \$400 in silver—a "big thing" at that time—but did not go into business for a year or two, and had finally to begin empty-handed like the rest. For many years after not one had secured money enough to pay for his land, and consequently all entered into contracts for future payments. At the expiration of four or five years the land-owners added principal and interest together, and secured themselves by a judgment bond and mortgage on each farm. This was a great shock to the settlers, but it served as a spur to their ambition; for though some felt at times as if they never could pay the amount required—so little market had they for their produce—they *have* paid it; and, in every instance, except one, have paid three or four times the original price of their farms, so long a time had elapsed before the final payment. Most of the early settlers were short of provisions, and gave their labor for supplies. In this way the farms were rapidly cleared. One of them says "we had no privations as a general thing. By the sweat of the brow we had enough to eat and to wear; but the most trouble we had was to sell our surplus for a reasonable compensation. Sometimes, when the lumbermen on the Delaware were successful, they would take whatever we had to spare." The Delaware and Hudson Canal revived the market considerably, and now Jackson is within two days of New York.

There are no very wealthy men in the township, but there are few who are not "well off" or independent. The inhabitants are, mostly, agriculturists, temperate and industrious.

Raising less wheat than formerly, they make good crops of corn, rye, oats, and buckwheat; but the year after Jairus Lamb came in he sowed a peck of buckwheat and reaped only a peck. The raising of stock receives considerable attention.

In the early years of the settlement wolves made havoc among the young cattle and sheep, unless they were closely yarded at night. As late as 1827 sheep were killed by them on the present site of the Methodist church at Jackson Center. Bears were few, but deer were plenty. David Bryant killed one thousand deer during twelve years. The writer heard him say that he has killed three before breakfast; one time he shot at five, and killed three with the one shot. This was no empty boast, but can be testified to by reliable parties. He was the "mighty hunter" of Jackson.

On the fourth of July, 1812, with three other men (every man then in the township) he went to Butler Lake to hunt deer. The day was warm, and the deer were cooling themselves in the water. "The shore was red with them." The hunters agreed to station themselves at different points around the lake, and the man who had the greatest distance to go should be the first to shoot, lest the deer should be disturbed before they were all ready. So well was this plan carried out that they found and dressed eleven of those they killed. Crops were often injured by the deer; they ate the wheat-heads, beans, and buckwheat.

A sister of David Bryant, Mrs. Jairus Lamb (mother of Russel B. Lamb), was the first woman buried in Jackson. The first child born in the town was Sophia, daughter of Hosea Benson.

The first school-house was built at the Center (Moses B. Wheaton, teacher), but not until 1820, as previous to this there were no children of a suitable age to attend school. The school-houses of Jackson are now referred to as models to be imitated by other townships.

In 1868, descendants of Martin and Asa Hall, and Jairus Lamb (who had married a sister of the Halls), to the number of eighty were present at a picnic in the town; and there were at least seventy-five more of them in other parts of the country.

William H. Bartlett, formerly a justice of the peace in Jackson, now living in Susquehanna Depot, in his seventy-second year, is able to say what cannot probably be said by any other man of his age, that he has never been confined to the house by sickness a day in his life. This is an evidence not only of the strength of his constitution, but also of the healthiness of the township.

It is written in the Psalms, "A man was famous according as he had lifted up axes upon the thick trees;" and in this respect it may be said of Mr. Bartlett that he "was famous," having

cleared of his own one hundred and thirty acres of timber, and in addition numerous smaller patches for others.

The houses of the early time were poorly lighted. In R. Harris' cabin, a *chink* in the wall was its only window, the panes being irregular bits of glass fitted in as well as they could be, and in dark weather it was necessary to light a candle to do the washing.

Mrs. Harris was the first milliner in Jackson. Previous to her coming, it was in style for the women to tie a pocket-handkerchief over their heads in going "to meeting;" but the airy "calash" soon supplanted that simple "tiring of the head," to which perforce they had been accustomed; and soon after that the large "Leghorn flat," with its wreaths and ribbons, found its way into the neighborhood.

Until Dr. Wheaton settled here, about sixteen years ago, there was no physician established in the township, though there were "comers and goers." Dr. Streeter, of Harford, or Mrs. Mercy Tyler, of Ararat, being depended upon in cases of emergency, all ordinary sicknesses were made to yield to careful nursing, and the use of simples. The medicinal plant of ginseng is found in abundance.

RELIGIOUS.

The first sermons heard in Jackson were those of Elder Nathaniel Lewis, a Methodist. It is said that he did not appear to be a man like Paul, "brought up at the feet of Gamaliel," though, doubtless, he was a good man. Whatever his text might be, after a short introduction, to fight *fatalism*, was always the subject and object of his discourse.

Elder Elijah Peck, from Mt. Pleasant; Rev. E. Kingsbury, "a fatherly Presbyterian;" George Peck, D.D., Asa Dodge, and Elder Agard were among the early preachers, and all left a fragrant memory. A "Free-will" Baptist society was organized in 1822, under the influence of Elder Daniel Chase; Martin Hall, and Nathaniel Norris being chosen deacons. The strict Baptist society of Jackson and Gibson was organized in 1825, and a Congregational society in 1837. The latter is now very feeble. The strict Baptist is the strongest church. The Congregationalists united with the Free-will Baptists in building a church, in 1838, two miles north of Jackson Center (as it is called, though near the south line of the township). The Methodists have a church a little further north, as well as one at the Center, where also the strict Baptists erected one in 1842. Stephen Tucker built the latter, after procuring subscriptions amounting to more than \$1000 in cash. Elders G. W. Leonard, J. Parker, D. D. Gray, J. B. Worden, Lamb, and Slaysman, have all been successful preachers in this church; and, as its minutes testify, it has as much religious vitality and enterprise, according to its numbers

as any church in the association. It was dismissed in 1828 from the Abington to unite with the Bridgewater association. About 1830, a Bible society was formed, and also a temperance society. Indeed, temperance and a good degree of religious sentiment have a strong hold among the people of Jackson. The churches are all supplied with pastors.

Deacon Daniel Tingley, of the Baptist church, "was truly a man of God, ever ready to take an active part in meetings, and ever kind to those in need of help. He lived and died at his post, respected by saint and sinner."

TOWNSHIP OFFICERS, ETC. ETC.

Jackson was not fully organized with township officers until 1816, when it appears the first officers were: constable, Moses B. Wheaton; supervisors, Hezekiah Bushnell and Martin Hall; and overseers of the poor, Jairus Lamb and Nathaniel West. There is no record of a town clerk, until 1820, when Joel Hall (a brother of Martin, and who came in later) served in that capacity. Pelatiah Gunnison was first justice of the peace. In 1838, a post-office, named Barryville, was established; this name was changed in 1836 to Jackson, upon the erection of the township of Thomson; though previously there had been a post-office of that name at what is now Thomson Center.

In military matters, Captains David Bryant and Nelson French, of the rifle company, were prominent. Major Lamb's title was acquired before coming to this section.

A bedstead manufactory was among the enterprises of the past, and which, for several years, sent off extensive supplies.

At present there is a pail factory at the sources of the Tunkhannock and Canawacta Creeks, and a grist-mill and a saw-mill (S. Tucker's) just below. There are five saw-mills—two of which are on Drinker Creek, one at the outlet of Butler Lake, and another at Beaver Dam, or "Little Butler," and two grist-mills in the township. Two stores, one grocery, and one hotel accommodate the public.

At Savory's Corners, there is a store kept by Norris & French, a blacksmith's shop by J. Aldrich, two wagon shops near at hand, and a saw-mill owned by C. D. Hill.

On the morning of July 4, 1870, the citizens assembled at Savory's Corners, bringing ropes, tackle, etc., for the purpose of raising a flag. At 12 o'clock it floated on the breeze nearly one hundred feet above the ground. It was hoisted by Billings Burdick, Nathaniel Norris, Calvin Corse, and Martin Hall, soldiers of 1812.

This locality took its name from Mr. John S. Savory, who died in Jackson, Sept. 25, 1867, aged 80 years.

Jackson Center, or "Jackson Corners," is situated on the



J.B. Worden

Lenox and Harmony turnpike, eight miles south of Susquehanna Depot, and contains something less than fifty dwellings, wagon, blacksmith, and harness shops, two tailor shops, a school-house, two churches, a dry goods and general finding store, a drug and variety store, an M.D.'s office, a large hall, a boot and shoe shop, a hotel, two slaughter houses, and a grist and saw-mill, running on full time.

A stave machine (horse-power), invented by Hosea Benson, is worthy of mention. It can be used with water or steam. The "Dresser and Joiner" has been added by his son, L. C. Benson, and is patented. An indicating attachment to weighing scales has been patented by Wm. F. Sweet.

SKETCH OF ELDER J. B. WORDEN.

BY HIS SON.

Jesse Babcock Worden was the youngest of nine children of Deacon John and Elizabeth [Babcock] Worden. He was born 18th July, 1787, in Richmond, Washington County, Rhode Island. Surviving companions of his youth describe him as noted for his robust health, strength, athletic exercises, and innocent social jovialty. But there was no neighborhood school, and he did not master the alphabet until twelve years of age. At that period, however, he took hold of books, became a proficient in all the elements of useful knowledge, and taught several schools when in his teens, in Rhode Island, and Southeastern Connecticut.

While living in Plainfield, Otsego County, New York, he was drafted, and in September, 1812, entered the United States service as sergeant major in Col. F. Stranahan's regiment under Gen. S. Van Rensselaer. The day after the battle of Queenstown, he was deputed to act as quartermaster, and soon received a brevet commission from Gov. Tompkins. At the disbanding of the militia, he enlisted, and served as lieutenant under Col. H. W. Dobbin, Gen. D. Miller, until that force was discharged.

Entering into mercantile business at Sangerfield, Oneida County, he there married (26th December, 1813) Hannah Norton, daughter of Deacon Oliver and Martha [Beach] Norton. He was prospered in his vocation until the disasters at the close of the war, which involved him and many others in financial ruin. In after life, with aid from the small salary of a pastor, he was enabled to discharge his liabilities.

His parents were eminently pious people, whose good examples were never lost upon his mind. And yet, when upon the early death of his father, he sought employment elsewhere, and fell into the friendly company of subtle, but respectable infidels, he too became a sceptic, though never a scoffer.

During a gracious revival in New Woodstock, Madison County, he was converted, and with his wife, was baptized by Elder John Peck in October, 1816. Not long after he was licensed to preach; and in 1818, was invited to supply the First Baptist Church, South Marcellus, Onondago County, and in March, 1819, in his 32d year, was ordained. There, for upwards of sixteen years, he thoroughly performed the duties of pastor and missionary—bishop and itinerant. His baptisms averaged twenty per year, in an agricultural community, and the church had increased to 270 members. He was also commissioned by the Baptist State Convention to take preaching tours in Western New York, in Ohio, and in the newer settled counties of Northern Pennsylvania.

His first visit here commenced in July, and ended in September, 1825, covering eight weeks of time, during which he preached often, at various

points in Susquehanna County and west of the river in Luzerne. He also missionated here in 1826.

Early in 1835 he bade adieu to his deeply-attached people in New York, in obedience to what he concluded was duty, and accepted a call to be joint pastor with the venerable Davis Dimock, of the Bridgewater church, at Montrose, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania. This relation continued three years, when Eld. Dimock accepted a call from Braintrim church. From 1838 to 1844, Eld. Worden was sole pastor at Montrose. During those six years he had the privilege of baptizing, on an average, over forty per year. He also had some trials resulting from his public opposition to slavery and Millerism.

In 1844, he left a church of 449 members, and labored, as his waning strength enabled him, with the smaller body at Jackson, Susquehanna County, and in neighboring fields. In his last year's connection with this people, at his request, Nathan Callender was his co-pastor, and has paid his memory a friendly tribute in the Baptist volume of Sprague's 'Annals of the American Pulpit.' In 1853, Roswell G. Lamb became sole pastor of the church.

Thus closed nearly twenty years of official care of churches in this county. Eld. Worden, however, continued preaching, when able, in destitute places, and on special occasions. His last sermon was delivered in Jackson, in the absence of the pastor, 2d Sabbath in July, 1855. On the 6th of August, 1855, he entered into rest, in the 69th year of his age.

His aged friend and brother in the ministry, Henry Curtis, preached the funeral sermon from 2 Tim. iv. 7, 8: "I have fought a good fight," etc. The sermon was published, and to it, and to the memorial of Eld. Callender, before named, the reader is referred for their estimates of his character, attainments, and labors. I may be permitted to add that I never knew a man of more sterling integrity, of more frankness or true friendliness, or who bore with greater equanimity the many hardships, vexations, and misapprehensions common to all, but especially the portion of the faithful proclaimer of the Word of the Almighty God. But he endured as seeing Him who is invisible, and, though dead, he yet speaks to many who heard his earnest exhortations while living.

CHAPTER XXXII.

ARARAT.

THE township of Ararat was erected from parts of Herrick, Thomson, and Gibson, by decree of court, in August, 1852. Eleven years later a change was made in the boundary line between it and Jackson, about the same angle being added to the latter township in the north part of the line, that is given to Ararat in the south part. This now follows nearly the direction of the Tunkhannock Creek in that section. [The county map accompanying this book shows the true line as corrected since the late atlas was published.] The township, in its greatest width and length, is about five miles on the west and through the center, by four on the north, south, and east.

There are residents of the township who have always occupied the same farms, and yet have lived in four townships—Harmony, Jackson, Thomson, and Ararat; or, Clifford, Gibson, Herrick, and Ararat; as at the time of its first settlement, it was included in Harmony, and Clifford, Luzerne County. The line between these two townships was afterwards that between Thomson and Herrick, which for some distance is the road running east and west, and crossing the Jefferson Railroad at the Summit.

Although the Summit is said to be 2040 feet above the level of tide-water, and the township has been happily styled the observatory of the county, yet it is considered, by those most familiar with it, as the *most level* of all our townships; being in fact a broad table-land with an abrupt descent only on the west. The ascent from Gelatt Hollow on the Tunkhannock Creek, may well confirm the general impression that this is the veritable Mt. Ararat which first gave name to the settlement, then to the church, and years afterwards to the township itself; but, in fact, that mountain is east of Lackawanna Creek, near its source, and just within the border of Wayne County. Still, as is seen by the map of old Luzerne accompanying this work, it is evident that "Mountain Ararat" was once the name applied to the whole Moosic range from below the line of Susquehanna County upward.

Jacob S. Davis, Esq., who constructed the township maps of Wayne County in 1825, then said:—

"Beyond the Moosic Mountain (which subsides in Mt. Pleasant township), rises Mount Ararat, which reaches a short distance into Preston township, and is about of the same height as the Moosic."

A gentleman residing in the vicinity, in reference to this, says:—

"It is apparent that Mt. Ararat is much higher than the railroad summit in the township of Ararat, from the fact that the mountain is seen from Montrose and many other places that are below the said summit. Even when people think they are 'level,' they overlook this table-land and see Mount Ararat and 'Sugar Loaf.'" [The latter peak slopes to the shore of Mud Pond in Wayne County.]

The boundary line between the township and Wayne County is the base of the Moosic (or perhaps more properly, Ararat) Mountain on the west side, along which flows the Lackawanna. One of its sources—Long Pond (Dunn's)—empties into Mud Pond near the county line, and affords at the outlet of the latter a water power among the best in Northern Pennsylvania. The other beautiful lakes of the township—Fiddle Lake (so called from its fancied resemblance to a violin), and Ball's Pond—furnishing tributaries to the main stream, and need, too, only capital and enterprise to make them of great value to the surrounding country.

Although there is still a large amount of untilled land in Ararat, yet there are probably not 100 acres untillable, or that cannot be made remunerative to the possessor. The Jefferson Railroad¹ (for which ground was broken May, 1869), passes through the township near its center, and opens up its wildest parts to the admiring criticism of those who have heard it berated as the region of perpetual snows on towering hills, and where furious blasts make winter hideous. True, spring usually opens late; but summer lingers; the frosts not appearing until at least a fortnight after they have settled in the valley below; and "the towering hills"—where are they, but as united to form the eastern bound of the same? From their battlements one beholds a prospect that amply repays the toilsome ascent. Parts of no less than twelve townships are readily recognized. By the aid of a glass, two churches in Gibson, the orphans' school buildings in Harford, and even "Woodbourne" appear in distinct outline. From "the Summit," about a mile east of the brow of this table-land, the eye sweeps a circuit of nearly one hundred and fifty miles on the horizon, beginning at a patch of blue hills beyond the Susquehanna River at Lanesboro, and reaching to Bald Mountain on this side the river at Pittston. A glance takes in nearly the whole extent of the most northern township of Luzerne County, as it was in 1790, from Sugar Loaf on the right to Mt. Pisgah in Bradford County on the left. The smoke of a locomotive on the Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Railroad remains in sight an hour, under certain conditions of the atmosphere. In 1830, Mrs. Tyler saw distinctly forty fallows burning; the air then being clear, the smoke from each one rose up straight, though soon after all blended together in one haze. This occurred twenty years after the smoke of the first lone clearing issued from these forests.

John Tyler, of Harford, had used the peak in Wayne County as a guide when he left that town to take up his abode in the forest "towards Ararat." This expression, by a not unusual process, became in the minds of others "*to* Ararat;" and certainly, the locality he selected did not belie in natural features its namesake of Noah's time.

A grandson of his describes it as "a lofty table-land, which from its commanding elevation was called by him and has ever since borne the name of 'Ararat.'"

Mr. Tyler (more commonly called Deacon T.), as agent for Henry Drinker, had received from him a farm here of his own choosing; with the understanding that he should settle on it and

¹ Extensive slides have occurred on this road near the Summit, where there is a deep and extensive "cut." A bog or marsh, over which the rails were first laid, has also given much trouble to the company, and occasioned the construction of a long tressle-bridge at this point, not far from Summit Station.

induce others to purchase Mr. D.'s lands in the vicinity. These were advertised by handbills¹ and otherwise, as being "an extensive tract situate in Luzerne County, near the line of Wayne County, on the headwaters of Tunkhannock and Lackawannock Creeks, Pennsylvania;" it had been "carefully re-surveyed, and divided into lots of 100 acres each, and with little exception, found to be of superior quality; producing a growth of beech, *sugar tree*, hemlock, birch, white and black ash, cherry, chestnut, and white pine; abounding with nettles, ginseng, and other herbage, sure indications of a luxuriant soil, well watered with springs and numerous lively streams."

In the spring of 1810, John T. with his son Jabez and a hired man, had arrived at his place and were erecting a framed-house; but before it was occupied by his family, Truman Clinton and Hezekiah Bushnell came with their families, and the cabin of the former, on the farm now owned by D. Avery, was erected and occupied.

A granddaughter of Deacon Tyler, Miss Lucinda Carpenter (afterwards Mrs. David Avery), was the first female who passed a night in the township—she came to cook for her grandfather while he raised his house. Later, when he brought in his family, she came with them and remained. She was the first school-teacher in Ararat, and taught in a log school-house nearly opposite the Congregational church.

The previous fall, Mr. Bushnell and Joshua Clark, of Lebanon, New London County, Connecticut, came to Ararat—then Harmony, Luzerne County, and each having purchased a lot of land, returned to Connecticut. Early in 1810, Mr. Bushnell, with his wife, two children, and a hired man, left his native town, with all its comforts and endearments, for the trials of pioneer life. The privations and hardships endured by the men and women of that time cannot be fully realized by those who reap the benefits of their sacrifices and toils. The party, after a tedious journey in a heavy double wagon, arrived at Asahel Gregory's (in what is now Herrick—then Clifford), the 10th day of March. From that point a road had been surveyed to the Susquehanna River at Lanesboro, but as it was not opened, Mr. B. secured an upper room for his family, and then proceeded with his assistant to the place selected, and rolled up a log house. He had expected the road would be open by the time he returned, but, disappointed in that, he took his family to Gibson, and thence by a road cut by Deacon T., and they reached his house the last of

¹ One of these, yellowed by sixty years, lies before the writer. Though printed in Philadelphia, the quality of paper as well as type compare but poorly with the issues of the present country press. The "tract" must have reached to Harford, as "a house of worship and several grist and saw-mills" were even then on the lands.

April. It was only just boarded, and there was no fireplace—the cooking for the deacon and his hired man being done by a log-heap outside. Here the emigrants were sheltered until the remaining mile of their road could be improved, as well as Mr. Bushnell's cabin. Within ten days of their arrival, their oldest child, a daughter of four years, died; and her funeral, attended only by laymen, was the first religious service in the new settlement. Several weeks elapsed before the bereaved parents took up their abode in their own house, and then it had but one board on it—a part of their wagon-box—the bark roof was incomplete, and a blanket served the place of a door, while the floor was of split logs, and the fireplace was only large stones set against the log wall. Thus they lived until October, when a few boards were procured from a saw-mill in Harford, the gable-ends of the house were boarded up, and a door was made. About this time their second daughter was born—the first birth in the settlement. There were then but three women in the township, viz., Mrs. Tyler, Mrs. Clinton, and Mrs. Bushnell. Directly east to the Delaware River it was fifteen miles, and to the Susquehanna at Lanesboro ten miles; and in either direction there was not a single cabin between. Five miles south of the settlement was the house of Esq. Gregory.

Mrs. Bushnell and Mrs. Tyler had frequently to go to Lanesboro on horseback with babes in their arms for the grists, while their husbands were busy in the field.

Mr. B. died Nov. 4, 1851, in his 70th year; his wife died eighteen months later. They had four sons and one daughter.

As Deacon John Tyler and wife have had previous mention as being among the first settlers of Harford, we will only add here the following:—

Mrs. Mercy Tyler was “a remarkable woman in many respects. Combining mental as well as physical force, she was the right kind of woman to be a pioneer; ready for any emergency, she could, if necessary, roll logs, drive team, spin, weave, cook, or do anything which would promote the interests of her own family or of others. As a Christian she was equally efficient, and those mothers in Israel who adopt St. Paul's views on the woman question, admit that *she* was an exception—one that could talk in meeting to the edification and profit of both sexes. So often did she ride to and from Harford with heavy luggage, such as a dye-tub, a big brass kettle, etc., that it was said of her, “she brought her *loom* on horseback, in her lap, with her granddaughter in it weaving!”

No inclemency of the weather ever prevented her prompt attention to the calls of the sick. Often, after the labors of the day, would she spend hours of the night on horseback and alone, tracing the rough and winding paths which led through the

forests, to render the medical assistance so extensively sought. At the time of her death, in 1835, when she was 83 years old, she had six children, forty grandchildren, and seventy-four great-grandchildren. Her youngest son, Jabez, found his home in, and was identified with the interests of Ararat from 1810 to his death in 1864. He was born in Mass., and was but seven years old when his parents came, in 1794, to Harford. He had eight children, of whom four lived to manhood, and two reside on the farm he formerly occupied. His widow, a daughter of Rev. Ebenezer Kingsbury, survives him.

Nathaniel West came from Dutchess Co., N. Y., early in April, 1810, with his ax upon his shoulder his only stock and capital in trade, and located fifty acres of land, a part of the farm on which he resides, which consisted, before parcelling out to his sons and otherwise, of 220 acres of valuable land brought under cultivation by his own diligence and hard labor.

His homestead has been located in two different counties and four different towns since he has lived on it. [The act of legislature separating Susquehanna from Luzerne was in reality passed before Mr. West came here; but, to all practical purposes he was in Luzerne until the fall of 1812.] "He is the only one now living of the first adult settlers of Ararat. At the age of 82, he is able to jump up and 'crack' his feet twice before touching the floor. He has the health and vivacity of youth, enhanced by a long life of regular and temperate habits and untiring industry."

He was justice of the peace for Thomson for five years, and county commissioner for three years.

Whipple Tarbox came in with Mr. West and commenced chopping, but neither brought his wife until 1812.

Joshua Clark, with his son Jacob, and John Snow, a hired man, came in the same year, and made some improvement—a requirement of the contract with the Drinkers. The elder Clark did not settle, but the son came not long after, and remained on their purchase. John Snow brought his wife in 1814.

Shubael Williams, with his wife and one child, came from Lebanon, Connecticut, Sept. 1812, and settled on a part of Joshua Clark's purchase. He and his wife were of the number who first united to sustain the Gospel here, and for over fifty years nearly every Sabbath found him in his seat at church. He lived for fifty-five years on the same place where he died May 14, 1867, in the 85th year of his age. He gave his first presidential vote for Thomas Jefferson, his last for Abraham Lincoln. His widow died in Ararat Oct. 10, 1871.

James Cook, a native of Rhode Island, came in 1812, and attended the first court held in Montrose.

David Avery, born in Laurens, Otsego Co., N. Y., came in 1814. He soon after married, and settled on the place where he

died Jan. 6, 1872, in the 77th year of his age. For upwards of fifty years he was connected with the Congregational church at Ararat. He left a widow and eight children.

Wareham B. Walker, a soldier of 1812, came from Ashford, Windham County, Connecticut, Dec. 1814, in company with Elias Scarborough, and purchased the land he now lives on. Mr. S. took up the lot south of it, which is now occupied by Chauncey Barnes. They returned to Connecticut in the fall of 1815, and came back accompanied by Ezra, brother of W. B. Walker. The latter taught in Burrows Hollow that winter. He remained and cleared three acres of land, which he sowed with rye.

In the spring of 1816, Chester Scarborough came from Connecticut, and bought of Truman Clinton the farm lately occupied by David Avery, and remained until July, when he and Mr. Walker returned to Connecticut. Mr. Walker then married Miss Hannah Scarborough of Ashford. Chester S. had a wife (Anna) and two daughters. In Sept. following, the party came back to Pennsylvania with an ox team, occupying eleven days on the journey.

Mr. Walker has always lived on the same farm, and, like Mr. West, in several townships. Of the time when he brought his wife here, his daughter says:—

“When mother was alone, and there was no noise in the house, the deer would come and feed under the window. A *white* deer was seen about here the first winter. One night the wolves came within a few rods of the house, and killed fifteen or twenty sheep. Bears and panthers were here.”

Shubael A. Baldwin and Martha his wife came in 1816, from Mansfield, Windham County, Connecticut. The former died here Feb. 1871, aged 79 years and 4 months; the latter Oct. 1871, aged 79 years.

Philip T. and Silas S. Baldwin came from Lebanon, Windham County, Connecticut, in 1816.

Freeman Peck commenced on a lot south of John Tyler's; but the exact date of his coming in is not given; so also of the following who came early: Daniel and David Burgess, John Doyle, Merrit, David, and Eneas Hine.

In 1817, Timothy J. Simonds and Zaccheus Toby moved from Mt. Pleasant, Wayne County, into the southeast part of the township, and commenced what has since been called “Simonds settlement.”

James Dunn, a Scotchman, came from Delaware County, N. Y., in the fall of 1821, with two sons, Robert and John. They wintered in a rude cabin. The following spring his wife and nine more children came, and they moved into a log house at the head of Dunn's Pond, three miles from the “Ararat settle-

ment." Here, remote from neighbors, without either friends or money, they applied to the forest for support, some times being for thirty days without bread. They bore upon their shoulders to the nearest settlements venison, fish, furs, window-sash made from rived pine bolts, and exchanged them for family necessities. Two of the sons, James and Andrew, killed seven deer in one day, and Andrew killed fifty-three in one season. Their perseverance and frugality secured to them a competency.

RELIGIOUS.

The first Sabbath after the three families of New Englanders occupied their cabins, they met at Deacon John Tyler's and had a religious service, consisting of prayer, reading of the Scriptures, singing, etc., and this was continued uninterruptedly until a house of worship was erected. Many Sabbaths every man, woman, and child within a distance of three miles was present. This was the case when Rev. E. Kingsbury preached the first sermon in the place. Those who attended meeting then, either walked, or rode on horseback; for such was the state of the roads that no vehicles but ox-sleds in winter were available. A dense forest, with here and there a small clearing, was not a place for pleasure-riding, and those who resorted to the place of prayer had in view a higher object.

In 1813, the Congregational Church of Ararat was organized by the Revs. Ebenezer Kingsbury and Samuel Sergeant, missionaries of the Connecticut Missionary Society; and the former continued to act as moderator of the church until near the close of his useful life. Many were the visits he made to this little band of pilgrims, who greeted his coming with a hearty welcome, one phase of which, in these days, would be omitted—the decanter and tiny wine-glass, which were never seen at other times, were always set on the table for "Father Kingsbury," who followed, then, Paul's advice to Timothy, but he was afterwards one of the first to engage in the temperance reform. The following twelve were the original members of the church: John and Mercy Tyler, Hezekiah and Lucy Bushnell, Truman and Rhoda Clinton, Shubael and Ruth Williams, Jabez and Harriet Tyler, Lucinda Carpenter, and William West. Of these, not one is now living.

The church had no settled pastor until November, 1847, when the Rev. George N. Todd came, and remained about six years. A neat parsonage was completed in the fall of 1848. The five acres of land attached to it were the gift of Deacon Jabez Tyler. The church was dedicated February 6, 1850. The Revs. O. W. Norton, Lyman Richardson, J. B. Wilson, and Edw. Allen have officiated successively in its pulpit, either as pastors or stated supplies. There are now but about thirty communicants, though a

few more than one hundred have been connected with the church since its organization. A Sabbath-school has been long sustained, the first having been formed by Hezekiah Bushnell and Jabez Tyler; and its library is the only public one in the town.

A Methodist society was formed some years since, but they have no church edifice, though one is in contemplation (1872).

MISCELLANEOUS.

A temperance society was formed in 1830, by Rev. Mr. Adams. A barn of H. Bushnell's was the first building raised without liquor.

Ararat post-office, with the exception of one in Virginia, is the only one of the name in the United States.

On the slope towards the Tunkhannock Creek, grain can be raised to better advantage than on the summit and east of it, which is better adapted to grass, especially "timothy."

The sheep and cows are mostly of the native breeds. There is still a considerable number of sheep, but the high prices of butter, until recently, have turned the attention of farmers to the keeping of dairies as a principal source of profit.

Good crops of buckwheat, oats, and potatoes are raised, but wheat does not do very well, though exceptional cases are mentioned. On land of Nathaniel West wheat has been "sixty-fold;" oats raised there produced one head of 22 inches, and several of 18 inches. In 1869, John Beaumont raised from one seed of oats 36 stalks, from another 32, and from another 26. In early times when wolves, panthers, wild cats, and deer were near neighbors, the only safety for sheep was close proximity to the house at night, and even then, unless very carefully fenced in, they would be missing in the morning. Now and then an elk, or a bear, was seen. One Sabbath morning as Mr. and Mrs. B. were leading their only child (Leonard Augustus),¹ along the path towards the place where their religious service was held, they saw, a few yards distant, a large white-faced bear watching their progress with apparent indifference. The white face being an uncommon feature of bruin's, they did not readily detect him, but supposed him to be a neighbor's cow. But when he threw himself upon his haunches and extended his monstrous paws, Mr. B. swung his hat, and hurrahed at the top of his voice, in mass-meeting style, which had the effect which similar demonstrations are always supposed to have—the old fellow "run well;" and they passed on to the house of prayer.

The cry of "stop thief!" or "arrest the murderer!" was occasionally heard in the Beechwoods fifty years ago, and as a belief

¹ L. A. Bushnell and Almond Clinton, the only living representatives of the juvenile "first settlers," have left the township.

in retributive justice was inherent with the New Englanders, they promptly responded. On one occasion a stranger appeared to the people who had gathered for worship, and stated that he had been robbed in the woods by a ruffian who had fled by the Harmony road towards the State line. As a man answering to the description had passed that way early in the morning, it was thought possible he might be overtaken before reaching it. Mr. B. mounted his horse and gave chase, overtaking him just this side of the New York line; and without aid or assistant, arrested and pinioned him, marched him back through a ten mile forest, and delivered him to the authorities.

Upon that same road, at a later period, the murder of Oliver Harper was perpetrated, for which Jason Treadwell suffered the severest penalty of the law. The last house the victim entered was Hezekiah Bushnell's; he asked of Mrs. B. and received a piece of mutton-tallow with which to rub his chafed and weary limbs.

When Harper's body was found, the news spread like wild-fire. "A man murdered and the murderer at large!" Every muscle was strained to procure his arrest. Roads and bridges were guarded, men on horseback and on foot scoured the woods for several days, and great was the relief when the supposed criminal was lodged in Montrose jail.

A similar excitement was occasioned a few years afterwards by the cry, "a man murdered this side of Belmont, and the murderer in the woods coming towards this settlement!" Again nearly every man was engaged in the search; and while the husbands and fathers were thus absent, the mothers pressed closer their little ones in fearful suspense, lest the villain should pounce upon them in their helplessness. Finally he emerged from the woods, and under false pretences found shelter with James Dunn, a hospitable Scotchman, who lived in a secluded part of what is now Ararat township. His wants being supplied he went to bed; but soon after a posse of men effected a sudden entrance, and surrounding the bed captured the wretched creature without resistance. He was taken to Bethany, tried, sentenced, and hung. This was Matthews, murderer of Col. Brooks.

Among the inventions by the residents of this township, has been a fellow-dowel-pin (of metal and tubular), by E. Denison Tyler, and for which a patent has been issued.

[Most of the material for this chapter was kindly furnished by J. C. Bushnell, Esq.]

CHAPTER XXXIII.

THOMSON.

AT the date of its settlement, this township formed a part of Jackson; but, in the spring of 1833, the latter was divided into two equal parts, and the eastern half received the name of Thomson, in honor of the Hon. Wm. Thomson, who was one of the Associate Judges of the Court of Susquehanna County at the time of its organization, and for many years afterwards.

The area of the township has since been diminished by the erection of Ararat from parts of Thomson and Herrick; the present eastern line being one mile, and the western about two miles, less than their original extent, which was six miles; the north and south lines being four and a half miles.

The surface of the township is more hilly than that of Jackson, except in the valleys of its principal streams, the Starucca and Canawacta. The former rises in Ararat and crosses Thomson diagonally from the southern to the eastern border; then, after meandering a little in Wayne County, it re-enters the township in the northeast corner, and crosses into Harmony, which it traverses until it falls into the Susquehanna River at Lanesboro. The Canawacta rises near the center of Thomson, not far from the source of one of the tributaries of the Starrucca, and, running northwardly, reaches the Susquehanna between Lanesboro and Susquehanna Depot, nearly a mile below the former stream. A tributary to the Tunkhannock rises in the southwest corner of the township. One of the hills of the township, called Dutch Hill, is reported as subject to tremblings and explosions, occasioned, it is thought, by internal gaseous combinations.

Thomson shares its two finest sheets of water with other townships; the Wayne County line passing through Wrighter's Pond¹ in the extreme southeast, and the line of Harmony through Comfort's Pond in the north. Church Pond, near the latter, is wholly in Thomson. Messenger's Pond is about one mile from Thomson Center.

The forests comprise a variety of timber, such as beech, birch, maple, ash, pine, hemlock (there are a few instances of grafted hemlock), cherry, chestnut, and bass-wood. Formerly the beech-

¹ Early known as "Breeches" Pond, from its fancied resemblance to the short nether garment of the olden time. Even fancy cannot trace it on the Susquehanna County side.

woods stretched from this vicinity fifty or sixty miles eastward to "the Barrens" of New York; but the dense wilderness is now relieved by sunlight on many a clearing and thrifty hamlet.

As early as 1788-89, Samuel Preston and John Hilborn were engaged in constructing what is known as the old North and South Road, from Pocono Point, near Stroudsburg, on the Delaware, north to the State line. It was built mostly by private enterprise, the gentlemen mentioned being in the employ of Tench Coxe and Henry Drinker, landholders, of Philadelphia, and the State appropriated \$1000 towards it. The act of legislature also provided for another road, to leave the North and South Road at or near Mt. Ararat, and to be constructed westward to the mouth of the Tioga River. But, as the Susquehanna River, with which the former was connected, furnished so good a substitute for this road, it was never constructed.¹

We are told there was, in 1820, no road in what is now Thomson township, except "an old log road from Simond's settlement (in Ararat) to Starucca."

The first settlement within the present limits of Thomson was made by John Wrighter, in the spring of 1820. He came from Mt. Pleasant, but was originally from Dutchess County, N. Y. His father was a native of Bavaria; his wife was born and brought up in London. Having lost his property through the dishonesty of a supposed friend, he was very poor when he came, and, consequently, he and his family endured many hardships and privations, in addition to those of conquering a dense wilderness. They made their first home *by the side of a log*, on which they laid boards from their wagon; the boards having been left by some lumberman. Here they found shelter until they built a log-house. For three weeks, they were near starvation, having to subsist on frozen potatoes and what meat Mr. W. could procure with his rifle.

He was a blacksmith, and sometimes worked through the week at Harmony, eleven miles distant. Saturday nights he would take a bushel of meal, with other necessities on his back, and walk home. Once, being belated on account of the darkness, he could not keep his course, and he waited for the moon to rise. He laid his bag on the ground, making of it a pillow, and fell asleep. Twice he was aroused by wild animals walking around and smelling him; but, fortunately, this was the extent of the danger, and soon the moon arose, allowing him to pursue his journey.

He has seen from thirty to forty elk at one time near his home,

¹ This statement is made in the 'History of Mt. Pleasant,' by Rev. S. Whaley; but, on the map accompanying Proud's 'History of Pennsylvania,' the only road laid down in the section which now comprises Susquehanna County, is the one from Belmont to Tioga Point.

with horns so large they appeared like immense chairs on their heads. The woods abounded, at that time, in elk, deer, bears, wolves, wild-cats, and panthers.

Though Mr. W. has been classed among *hunters*, he cultivated a farm, and devoted but part of his time to hunting. "His success was owing more to his calm and fearless manner of meeting wild animals, than to any dexterity. He had a tall, heavy-built frame, and his movements were slow, but firm and forcible. His mind, partaking of his bodily characteristics, was well balanced." (Rev. S. Whaley.)

Joseph Porter, the next settler, came in 1823, and commenced clearing a farm on the Starucca Creek, about two and a half miles from John Wrighter's, at what is now Thomson Center. At first he boarded with Mr. Wrighter, while chopping daily on his own place. One time when at work later than usual, it became so dark before he could reach Wrighter's that he lost his path; the wolves came upon him, and forced him to climb a tree, where he remained until daylight.

In 1824, and prior to the arrival of the third settler, the Belmont and Oquago turnpike was finished to Harmony. It passes entirely through Thomson, from the point now marked as its southeast corner, *via* the Center and the Canawacta Creek, to Comfort's Pond, near which it enters Harmony township. It was incorporated Feb. 1817.

Frederick Bingham moved into Thomson in the spring of 1826, and began a clearing about half a mile from the Center.

Capt. Jonas Blandin came in the fall of the same year, and settled at the Center. In the spring of 1828 he opened an inn which he kept for about fifteen years. He had received a captain's commission, in 1818, while in Vermont.

Collins Gelatt, Joel Lamb, Jr., and Ebenezer Messenger, came in about this time, and Enoch Tarbox a little later, all settling not far from Porter and Blandin.

The first child born in the township was John M., son of John Wrighter, January, 1821.

The first day-school was kept by Miss Leafy Blandin, who had about a dozen scholars, in a log-house built by Joseph Porter, at Thomson Center.

RELIGIOUS.

Elder Nathaniel Lewis, a local preacher from Harmony, was the first who preached in Thomson, and who also formed the first Methodist class there. It consisted of five members: Frederick and Rachel Bingham, John and Ann Wrighter, and Betsey Gelatt.

The eccentricities of Elder Lewis have been previously noticed. At one time whilst he was preaching, some unruly boys

disturbed the meeting to such an extent that the elder's patience gave way, and he upbraided them as the most *hogmatical* set of scoundrels he ever saw. On being told that there was no such word in common usage, the elder said, *I don't care, it was applicable.*

The first traveling preachers were Elders Warner, Barnes, and Herrick. The North Bainbridge Circuit then extended to this section, and embraced one hundred and twenty miles of travel, requiring two weeks for the trip. Elders George Evans, Peter Bridgman, and Benjamin Shipman succeeded the former three on this circuit. The first Sabbath-school was formed by elder John Deming, a local preacher. It was held in a school-house about a mile north of the Center.

There was no church edifice in the township until the Methodists built the fine one, at the Center, in 1851, and which was dedicated Jan. 1852. The society has a large membership.

The Free-will Baptists have a society, recently formed, and have regular preaching, in a school-house one and a half miles west of the Center.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At the first township election in the spring of 1834, there were only thirty-five votes polled; but, in the fall of the same year, at the general election, fifty-one voters appeared, being within five of every taxable in the township. To account for this number, it must be remembered that, at that time, Thomson included the north part of what is now Ararat, which was then comparatively well settled. Thus among the first township officers of Thomson we find Nathaniel West, Hezekiah Bushnell, and Obadiah L. Carpenter, all afterwards included in Ararat. Charles Wrighter and Jacob Clark were the first constables, the latter being also the first town clerk. Nathaniel West and Joel Lamb were the first supervisors. Benjamin Ball and Hezekiah Bushnell, first overseers of the poor, and John Wrighter, Christopher Toby, and O. L. Carpenter, first auditors. Charles Wrighter and Joel Lamb were the first justices of the peace. There was a post-office at Wrighter's as early as 1825.

Prior to the division of Jackson township, a post-office by that name had been established at what is now Thomson Center, but in 1836, the name was transferred to what had been Barryville, in the western part of that township. Jonas Blandin received his appointment in 1830, and, with a short interval, retained the office in Thomson nearly thirty years.

Until the Fremont campaign, the township was strongly Democratic, and since then has been as strongly Republican.

The first temperance society was formed in 1834; Martin J. Mumford, President.

There is now a flourishing lodge of Good Templars, who hold their meetings weekly. Organized Sept. 30, 1867.

C. P. Tallman, the first merchant, established a store in 1841. The spring of 1842 was a remarkably early one, and favorable for the making of maple sugar, so much so that within an area of two miles square, 14,694 lbs. of it were made that season.

The site of J. Blandin's inn is now occupied by a more commodious public house.

Jesse Stoddard, 80 years old in April of 1869, chopped forty cords of stove-wood in the months of December and January following.

The Jefferson Railroad winds in and out of the township much as the Starucca Creek does, and has already wrought great changes all along its course, whilst Thomson Center, from being spoken of only as a by-word, has attained to no small importance. It is a railroad station, has two saw-mills (one steam power), a church, a store, and post-office, a blacksmith shop, etc.

Starucca depot is within the township, though the village of that name is just over the line in Wayne County. There is a large amount of unseated land in the township.

[The only residents of Thomson who contributed to its annals, were Jonas Blandin and his son G. P. B., Esq.]

CHAPTER XXXIV.

THE NICHOLSON LANDS.

NEXT in importance to the long disquiet occasioned by disputed titles, when Connecticut denied to Pennsylvania the right of soil within the bounds of old Westmoreland, was that to which settlers on the Nicholson lands were subjected for a period of nearly twenty years: firstly, by an alleged lien of a Philadelphia corporation; and afterwards by one of the State on the Hopbottom tract, as well as on that called "Drinker's Meshoppen tract." John Nicholson was comptroller of Pennsylvania from 1782 to 1794, and during that period was owner of about 3,700,000 acres of land in the State. In 1785, he, with Dr. Barnabas Binney, purchased from the State sixty tracts, including a considerable portion of the township of Brooklyn; and paid to the State the full amount of the purchase-money. In 1789, he commenced a settlement upon the lands which, by the partition between him and Dr. Binney, had been allotted to him. In 1795, he borrowed from the Widow's Fund Corporation of Philadelphia, \$37,166, and secured the payment by a mortgage

upon thirty-five tracts in Brooklyn. The mortgage fell due in 1799. No part of the money was paid to the corporation, and Nicholson died insolvent.

In 1805, the corporation agreed to sell to John B. Wallace and thus closed the mortgage of Nicholson, the lands being bought in for the corporation; who, on Wallace's paying the purchase-money, were to convey the same to him. The purchase-money was payable in fifteen years from March, 1806, and the interest payable annually. Mr. Wallace paid the interest for several years, and continued to sell the lands until 1823 or '24, when he had sold about 2250 acres—the best part of the land—and for which he had received payment.

In 1823, the state of the title and the interest which the corporation held in the land, becoming known to the settlers, excited much anxiety among those who had paid Wallace, but who, as was then ascertained, had received no title.

Some went to Philadelphia, and requested that the business might be closed. A correspondence was continued between them until 1826 or '27, when a committee for the corporation came and met the settlers at Mr. Breed's, in Brooklyn; but nothing was or could be effected with those who had not paid, until the question of the corporation's title was settled.

Wm. Jessup, Esq., had seen the officers of the corporation in Philadelphia, and obtained the assurance that no settler who *had paid* Mr. Wallace, should be again called upon to pay for his land. He wrote to some of the settlers, and had a meeting at his office, when it was agreed *that he should bring a suit* upon the lot on which Jeduthan Nickerson lived in order to settle the question in Brooklyn. Those present assured him that counsel should be employed, the cause fairly tried, and thus the title might be settled. But counsel was not employed. Afterwards, another suit was brought against some settlers in Bridgewater, who doubted the corporation's title. Messrs. Case and Read examined the papers, and pronounced the title good. Obadiah Green employed Mr. Wurts, who pronounced the title bad. Those settlers who were satisfied with the decision of Messrs. Case and Read, agreed to contract for their lands, having ten years in which to pay for them; but Mr. Wurts entered a plea for Green. The issue was duly tried, and a verdict was rendered for the corporation.

Another cause was also tried, and the *right by law* of the corporation to call upon those who had paid to Wallace, to *pay again*, was fully established. But Mr. Jessup urged that the title of the settlers, as made by Wallace, *should be confirmed*, and that thus the fears and anxieties of those who had honestly paid their money should be quieted. In the fall of 1832, he succeeded in getting instructions which authorized him to make releases in all cases in which the settlers had paid Mr. Wallace.

The foregoing refers to that part of the corporation's lands not interfered with by what are called the Allen surveys.

In 1775, Benjamin Chew, Andrew Allen, and others, took up a large quantity of land, a portion of which lay upon the Hop-bottom Creek. By the attainder of Andrew Allen, in 1778, his part of those lands was confiscated to the State; and by a decision made subsequently by the supreme executive council, the share belonging to the State was located in Brooklyn, on what was called the Chew and Allen warrants. When the surveyor located the Nicholson warrants, he laid them upon part of the lands confiscated to the State.

The State having received pay from Nicholson, it was supposed that the titles of those who held under him, were good as against the State, and that the State never would claim the land from those who had paid their full price; until the decision was rendered in the case of Wallace *vs.* Tiffany (Amos?), by which it was decided by the Supreme Court, that the title passed by the officers of the land office to Nicholson was irregular, saying also, that *legislative action would be necessary to regulate the title.*

Mr. Joseph Chapman was *partly* on the Allen lands, and through the procurement of Mr. Jessup, and with the assistance of Messrs. Read and Jones, an act from the legislature was passed confirming the title of any settler who held under the Nicholson title—on application to the legislature. But with the great body of the Allen lands, Mr. J. had nothing to do, as they were covered by the Mary M. Wallace warrants.

THE NICHOLSON COURT.

Thus far all that has been said refers to events prior to Nov. 1834. We pass on now to the panic of 1841. By an act of legislature a year previous, commissioners had been appointed to hunt up and settle the claims of the estate of John Nicholson to lands formerly purchased by him in various parts of the State. These commissioners had given notice through the papers that they would be in Montrose on a given day, to adjust the respective interests of the State, the heirs and creditors, and also of the settlers of any such lands in this county.

The streets of Montrose on the day specified (in August) were thronged, but the commissioners failed to appear; and they did not make their appearance until about the middle of November following, when for two or three weeks they exhibited at McCollum's Hotel their papers and maps, and drew the attention of crowds. Even those who had no personal interest in the Nicholson lands, began to feel insecure against unexpected claimants to their lands, which they had long owned and occupied with a confidence not less than their more unfortunate neighbors. Several townships were in a panic.

The editor of the 'Susquehanna Register,' under date of September of that year, remarks:—

"Such has been the excitement prevailing, that all sorts of ridiculous and improbable stories have been set afloat, and circulated, with various additions, improvements, and embellishments, among the credulous, the marvelous, and uninformed; until many know not what to believe, or how much to be alarmed. While many who have never paid anything for their lands, eagerly embrace the offer of the commissioners to *compromise*, by contracting to pay fifty cents or a dollar per acre, in the hope of getting a title from the State at that cheap rate, even some who had long ago paid for their farms, under a title supposed to be settled, also came forward and paid their five dollars each, as an earnest to bind the contract, and secured what they supposed to be their last chance of saving their farms! Some, however, concluded to hold on awhile to their titles already obtained, before paying out their money for a mere quitclaim deed from the State to all right, title, and interest of John Nicholson; to wait for some legal decision to see if that title was good for anything."

In order to allay the excitement, Benjamin T. Case, Esq., contributed to the same journal three pertinent articles, giving the result of his own investigations for many years, as counsel for persons interested in those lands. He was induced to this step by the fact, that the uncertainty in respect to titles was having a tendency adverse not only to his own interests, but to those of the county; as new-comers declined to purchase and settle where there was so little appearance that they could remain in quiet possession. Mr. Case stated that the Nicholson claims presented themselves in three points of view:—

1. The claims of the heirs—which were barred by the statute of limitations.

2. The claims of the creditors; but there was no mortgage upon the records of the county; and if there were, it is presumed to be paid, in law, after twenty years; and a judgment is lost after five years.

3. Commonwealth liens, and of these there were three; those of December, 1795 and '96, and of June, 1800. The statute of limitations does not extend to a debt due the State; but Mr. C. was not aware of any lands in this county so situated as to raise the question about their being barred by the lapse of time. "To us citizens of Susquehanna County it is a mere matter of speculation. To Binney's share of the sixty warrants issued to him and Nicholson, neither Nicholson's heirs, creditors, nor the State can have claim. As to the residue (thirty-five tracts, called the Hop-bottom lands), John Nicholson mortgaged them, January 22d, 1795—eleven months *before the State obtained her first lien*—to the Widows' Fund Corporation, to secure the payment of \$37,166;¹ which settles the question; for in the event of the

¹ On the 1st of January, 1799, with interest annually. The money not being paid, the mortgage was duly foreclosed in Luzerne County, the land sold at sheriff's sale, and the present owners now hold under that title. (B. T. Case.)

State lien being prior to the mortgage, only the money arising from the sale could be claimed, not the land; even if a judgment be reversed for error after a sale on it, the purchaser's title on it is not disturbed."

In March, 1842, the "Nicholson Court" decided that "the Nicholson claim to the corporation lands in Brooklyn and Bridgewater is *good*—FOR NOTHING!"

It was estimated that two hundred persons in Susquehanna County paid \$5.00 each to the commissioners; but in Wayne, Pike, and Monroe Counties they failed to raise such an excitement as they did here. In Wilkes-Barre, the indignation of the people, when the commissioners offered for sale lands that had been owned and occupied since 1774, was manifested in such a way as to cut short their work there. Here, the people had not so long battled with "the powers that be;" and were weary of the demands of the holders of warrants, which warrants were in some cases as many as three and four for the same tract, showing that some one at the land office could give an "irregular" title.

DRINKER'S MESHOPPEN TRACT.

A part of this was in Auburn and Springville. John Nicholson took out 168 warrants of 400 acres each, of land included in what was then Luzerne County; seventy-eight of which interfered with prior surveys of Samuel Wallis, from whom Henry Drinker purchased; and were on the south end of the Meshoppen tract. Both Wallis and Nicholson paid the State for the land, but as Wallis's surveys were of an earlier date, the Board of Property decided in his favor. Nicholson appealed to the Supreme Court, and the decision was again in favor of Wallis. In view of these facts, B. T. Case, Esq., stated, "Patents regularly issued to Drinker, who bought of Wallis, and the purchasers under him on those lands, hold under this title, and what is to disturb them?"

Henry Drinker, Geo. Clymer, and Samuel Meredith held 168 warrants, of dates 1790-'91-'92 and '93, paid for and patented. It was to these John Nicholson laid claim by virtue of other warrants, dated August 17, 1793; a date subsequent to all the warrants issued to the above, and for more than forty years the matter had been supposed to be settled by the Supreme Court; and in a report made by Mr. Kidder of the Senate of Pennsylvania, March, 1842, after a second investigation of the subject, it was stated that "the Judiciary Committee cannot discern even the shadow of a claim, either in law or equity, that the Nicholson estate has upon the Drinker lands in Susquehanna and Luzerne Counties."

SAMUEL EWING'S LANDS.

Ten of these tracts lay on the Lackawanna Creek, in the eastern part of the county, and were purchased from Ewing by Nicholson; but Ewing continued to hold the title in his own name, as a trustee for Nicholson. Those who purchased of Ewing without notice of a trust, took the land discharged of the trust. A mortgage, August, 1795, by Nicholson to Ewing, was duly foreclosed, and sold at sheriff's sale, by Ewing. Thus, in the opinion of one of Susquehanna's ablest lawyers, "There is no land in the county covered by the State's liens, or to which the heirs or creditors of John Nicholson have any valid claim; and if those who compromised with the commissioners persist in claiming to hold exclusively under those contracts, law-suits are sure to follow." Happily, the Nicholson claim to the widow and orphans' fund, and the Drinker tracts, was, as stated previously, decided against them by higher authority, and from that time Susquehanna County land-owners have had "peace."

Henry Drinker was the owner of what are called the West-town school lands,¹ in Lenox, and Fields and Collins were also holders of lands in the same township. Wm. Hartley bought the Fields title; C. L. Ward, the Collins lands; and these were all settled and sold to the settlers at fifty cents per acre, which quieted the titles in this portion of the county. The titles of one-half the lands in the township were in dispute for twenty-five years.

CHAPTER XXXV.

GEOLOGICAL FORMATION AND MINERAL RESOURCES.

GEOLOGICAL FORMATION.

THE following items are gleaned principally from the State Geological Reports of Prof. Henry Darwin Rogers.

In the State of New York, local geographical names are given to whole series of strata, as is also the case in Europe; but, in the geographical surveys of Pennsylvania and Virginia, Prof. Rogers has preferred to use the successive periods of the day, from dawn to nightfall, as technical terms applied to fifteen divisions of the Palæozoic rocks, including the Silurian, Devonian,

¹ These lands were a donation by Henry Drinker, the elder, to the Friends' Boarding School at West-town, Chester Co., Penna., an institution in which he took much interest.

and Carboniferous formations of English geologists. Only three of the fifteen are found exposed in the district of which Susquehanna County forms a part: "Vergent, or Descending Day," "Ponent, or Sunset," and "Vespertine, or Evening." These correspond to the Upper Devonian and Lowest Carboniferous formations of other geologists. "Vespertine," the highest in our county, is still a lower formation than "Umbral, or Dusk," of Prof. Rogers's series, and thus many hundred feet beneath "Seral or Night-fall"—his nomenclature for the true coal measures.

Pennsylvania, orographically, or in the relief of its surface, is divided into five districts—the fourth, or northeast, comprising the counties of Susquehanna, Bradford, and part of Tioga; and is watered by tributaries of the north branch of the Susquehanna.

Hydrographically, the State has three divisions—Atlantic, Ohio, and Erie. But though the fourth district is drained by an Atlantic river, it belongs, orographically, to the valley of the St. Lawrence; being the first or highest of the succession of plains or terraces by which the surface descends to Lake Ontario.

The northeast division of the district consists of three geological formations, or, perhaps, more properly, three series of the great Palæozoic formation—the Vespertine Gray Sandstone, Ponent Red Sandstone, and Vergent Shales—distributed in obedience to four wide, anticlinal waves, and three intervening synclinal troughs.

The Vergent strata (the lowest of the three) consist of a body of bluish shales, and imbedded gray, argillaceous sandstones. Its characteristic fossils are Fucoids, or ancient sea-weeds.

The Ponent strata consist of a thick mass of red shales and a few pebbly beds of white quartz. There are in them all but few organic remains; but these contain one or two remarkable fishes. No remains or footprints of reptiles have ever been discovered in the Ponent strata. They correspond to the old Red Sandstone of Great Britain.

The Vespertine is the lowest of the carboniferous strata;¹ and in this is remarked the suddenness of the change from marine to terrestrial forms, exhibiting amazing vegetation. The organic remains are fragments of coal plants, for the most part specifically different from those of the upper or true coal measures.

In the subdivisions also of the Palæozoic region, Susquehanna County comes in the fourth, or northeast district, comprising the country between the Delaware and Susquehanna Rivers, north of the coal-basin, and is of simple structure. The surface is that of a roughly undulated plain. The eastern half is more broken and hilly than the parts west of the Susquehanna—a circumstance partly attributable to their geological composition, the country east of the river consisting largely of hard, micaceous, flaggy sandstones; that west of it, of a larger relative proportion of argillaceous sandstones and clay shales. Proceeding northwestward from Belmont, we see in the hill, on the east of the stream, the Ponent red shales and Vespertine gray sandstones on the summit, without much inclination or dip.

¹ In the 'New American Cyclopedia,' both the Ponent and Vespertine are made to correspond to the Catskill group—the former to the red, and the latter to the gray sandstone. In the vicinity of Montrose, both varieties are obtained. The red crumbles after exposure, as is seen in stone walls and house foundations; the gray is excellent material for buildings and flagstones. One of the largest specimens of the latter—twenty-four feet long by five or six feet wide—can be seen in front of the grocery of I. N. Bullard.

The silicious seral conglomerate is not seen. This rock *terminates at the point of the coal-basin, four or five miles to the south.*¹ On the hill west of the valley, little or no red shale is visible. Almost level strata of Vespertine flaggy gray sandstone occupy the hills nearly the whole way to Montrose. Belts of the underlying red sandstone do, it is true, sometimes appear; for though, in the deep valley of the Susquehanna, the denudation has exposed the upper Vergent strata, in the high country the Ponent rocks unite across the arch, and the Vergent are no longer visible. In the vicinity of Belmont, the Ponent rocks are held up along the anticlinal to the level of all the lower plains and valleys. To the northwest of this belt is the synclinal range of mountain knobs and broken hills, along which flows the Tunkhannock Creek. This belt is but a continuation of the southeast table-land or basin of the bituminous coal region, and is composed of the Vespertine strata, gradually diminishing in breadth and thickness.

In the tract next northwest of the Tunkhannock hills, the Ponent rocks occupy the higher grounds; but the whole series is thin, and the valleys disclose the upper members of the Vergent series.

To this zone of country succeeds a more elevated synclinal belt, drained by the Wyalusing. It extends northeastward past Montrose, and is the prolongation of the second great trough or table-land of the bituminous coal region, and embraces, especially in the portion adjacent to the river, the lower strata of the Vespertine gray sandstones in a horizontal position. These rocks cap the more elevated tracts even in the vicinity of Montrose, the red Ponent rocks appearing in the beds of many of the deeper valleys.

Beyond the Wyalusing the Towanda anticlinal lifts the Vergent rocks to the general surface of the country, except in the very highest levels where we find detached outlying patches of the thin Ponent series. This anticlinal passes four or five miles north of Montrose, and is discernible in the great bend of the Susquehanna. Silver Lake is on its very gentle northern dip. This zone of country constitutes nearly the northern limit of the Ponent and Vespertine formations.

Few of the Appalachian rivers can boast a greater amount of attractive scenery than the north branch presents throughout its whole course, from the great bend near the State line through New York, and thence through Pennsylvania to the Wyoming Valley. It owes this eminence in part to the beautiful manner in which its terraces of northern drift or gravel have been strewn or shaped at the last retreat or rush of waters across the continent. The broad high table-land in which the Appalachian coal-field terminates, has evidently stopped the southward course of the nearly spent sheets of water which transported the drift, and turned southeastward and southwestward over the two northern corners of Pennsylvania.

Rev. H. A. Riley, of Montrose, says:—

"There are but few parts of the county abundant in fossil remains. At Montrose have been found in the green sandstone of the old red formation parts of vegetable branches. Some finely marked and some partially carbonized; as also fine specimens of *Cyclopteris*, some scales of *Holoptychius*, and fragments of other scales. Some specimens found in this locality are of special interest. Among these are a head and several caudal extremities of the *Cephalaspis Lyellii*. The head, although perfect in outline, does not present any organic structure. The caudal parts have distinctly preserved

¹ The limit of anthracite coal on the north is in the Tunkhannock Mountain, on the sources of the Lackawanna River, and on the confines of Susquehanna, Wayne, and Luzerne Counties. It extends along the valleys of that stream to Wyoming Valley, thence through to the hills near Berwick, on the Susquehanna, making, together, a distance of eighty miles. Other coal-fields lie below.—*Gordon's Gazette*.

the characteristic markings of the fish. These are claimed to be the first and perhaps the only specimens of this fossil discovered in the old red sandstone of this country. They were found perhaps fifteen years since, in the old quarry in the village of Montrose. Another specimen of interest from the same locality is the fossil plant *Noeggerathia obtusa*—a portion of the frond of which is figured in Dana's 'Geology,' p. 291, and of which Prof. Leo Lesquereux ('American Journal of Science and Art,' vol. 23) says:—"It shows the upper part of a frond with three oblique pinnæ somewhat reflexed from their base, and the pinnules or leaves, broadly oval or reniform, the upper one flabellate, all narrowed to the base and pinnately attached on both sides of the rachis by a narrow decurring base. The point of attachment of the leaves is just as I have figured it in my report. This splendid specimen has evidently the general outline and the appearance of a fern, and at once puts aside Brongniart's surmise that the simply pinnate form of the leaf, etc., shows it to be analogous to the *Zamia*."

The frond measures 12 by 7 inches. These specimens were found by Mr. Riley, and are in his cabinet at Montrose.

MINERAL RESOURCES.

In a mineralogical point of view, the three formations which overspread this northeast district of the State are remarkably destitute of interest, however instructive as respects their organic remains.

Some very unimportant indications of copper have been observed in the Ponent red shales, but there is no evidence of veins or beds of copper ore of any magnitude or value. It is said the ferruginous sulphuret of copper has been found near the village of Brooklyn, seven miles southeast of Montrose.¹ This discovery produced, in 1837, considerable local excitement, and the Hop-bottom valley acquired some newspaper notoriety. This was prior to the thorough geological survey of Professor Rogers, which failed to corroborate some of the floating rumors of the mineral wealth of the county. It had been said that iron, copper, paint, anthracite, and bituminous coal had been discovered—a bed of the latter being on the Susquehanna River near Great Bend. As early as 1823, it was asserted that "near the eastern line of our county there are extensive mines of stone-coal, lying on each side and near the Milford and Owego turnpike." At that time a company was engaged in "sledding coal from these mines to Milford, on the Delaware, to be conveyed from thence to the Philadelphia market by the spring-tide." But the mines must have been some miles below the turnpike, and outside of the county, since the Moosic Mountain, our eastern border in that region, consists of the Vespertine strata at a low angle northwestward, and between the southern slope and Bethany the chief formation exposed is the Ponent red sandstone. And if we pass northward, we shall

¹ There are traditions of lead and silver having been found near the Susquehanna River, and at present there are hopes of coal being found there, and near Uniondale.

find the Ponent red shales and sandstones predominating, though covered with the Vespertine green and gray rocks, in many places as far as the headwaters of Starucca Creek; where the horizontal position of the strata seems to change to a slight southern inclination, and the red shale ceases to be observed, the underlying Vergent shales coming to the surface. Beginning to descend towards the Susquehanna River at Harmony, we find by the fossils in the strata, that we are in this formation. [Rogers.]

As already shown, not one of these three formations contains the true coal measures.

Whatever doubt there may be respecting the presence of other minerals within our county, that of salt will not be denied, since both the Ponent and Vespertine sandstones contain feeble springs of it in this section as elsewhere. It has not been found, however, in quantities large enough to repay the expense of working it, unless very recently.

The earliest intimations of the existence of salt here appear to have been derived from the Indians by families living in the vicinity of Great Bend. J. B. Buck, of Susquehanna Depot, states as follows:—

“My great uncle was put with the Onondagas when they had their center two miles above where Windsor village now is, to learn their language, by his father Dean, at eleven years old. He staid ten years, and while he was there a few of the Indians went to get salt. They always went on one side of the river, and returned on the opposite side. He was considered one of them, but not in all things. One day he concluded to follow them, and did so. He got down a little below what is called Waller's Brook, where he was caught by one of the Indians who was lying in wait. It was with much difficulty that his life was spared, and he never dared to venture again. When his time was up with them, he made a bargain by which they were to show him the spring on his bringing them five large kettles. With great difficulty he got the kettles as far as Unadilla, and then, hearing that the war had commenced with England, he buried them. When the war was closed, he found that the kettles had been stolen, and things had so changed that he left the matter. In talking with my father, he said he was sure from appearances that he was near the salt spring when captured. One of the Indians told my father that he covered the spring and carried it so low into fresh water that no white man could find it. There has been much speculation for fifty years about this spring; but if it is ever found, it will be probably above the Lanesboro' Dam on the river bank.”

Joseph Du Bois, Esq., of Great Bend, contributed the following to the ‘Northern Pennsylvanian’:—

“When my grandfather, Minna Du Bois, first came to Great Bend (1791) there were a few Indians in the neighborhood. Grandmother said that the squaws used to come to her house in the morning and borrow her kettle, and the same day before dark, they would return it with two or three quarts of dirty looking salt in the kettle. If these squaws were followed, as they sometimes were, they wandered about in different directions, well knowing that they were watched, and would return with an empty kettle. When they were not interfered with, they invariably returned with the usual quantity of salt. The time of their absence, and the amount of salt made, rendered it certain

that the spring was not far distant, yet the white settlers never succeeded in finding its locality. When I was a boy, I happened to be at the Log Tavern, then kept by Sylvanus Hatch, when a traveler—a stranger—stopped there, and, while there, he inquired of the landlord, Mr. Hatch, if he knew of three large Indian apple-trees, in this vicinity, standing on the bank of the Susquehanna River. Mr Hatch told him that they were just across the street. The stranger then said that an Indian, to whom he had shown some favors, told him that on the Susquehanna River stood three large apple-trees, planted by the Indians long, long ago; that if he would go there and find the trees, by sighting the two trees lowest down the river, the line would strike the base of a big hill, and that if he would dig where the line struck the foot of the big hill, he would find a good salt spring. At this time there were quite a number of persons at the Log Tavern. The stranger went out to sight the trees, the crowd, including the writer, followed, and all sighted the two trees named. These two trees stood in relation to each other north and south; the line south struck the base of a big hill, known to old hunters as Middle Hill, opposite the residence of the late James Clark, and the line north struck the base of a big hill on the east side thereof, known as Trowbridge Hill. Here was a dilemma, for the stranger said that the Indian did not tell him whether it was the big hill north or south of the apple-trees. He said he would not dig on such uncertainties, and he proceeded on his journey."

In reference to the same spring the following is clipped from a statement of Rev. H. C. Hazard, whose father came from Otsego County to Susquehanna County in 1812:—

"In Otsego County my father lived near neighbor to Johnam Vroman, who was said to be three-fourths Dutch and one-fourth Indian, and who was taken prisoner by the Indians and kept all summer at 'the Three Apple-trees.' His captors broke his hands off backwards to prevent his doing them any injury in case he escaped. He used to tell father of the Indians' salt spring within one mile or so of 'the Three Apple-trees.' He said that when the sun was at 'midaugh' (mid-day) he must go directly towards, or from it; but father, not supposing he should ever see this country, forgot which. He afterwards made search, but in vain."

The various statements respecting the salt spring in Franklin cannot easily be reconciled. The earliest date given for its discovery occurs in the statement of Mrs. Garner Isbell, of Montrose, now (1871), seventy-seven years old. She says:—

"Judge De Haert and brother were working at the spring in Franklin, *all of seventy* years ago, procuring their provisions from my father, Rufus Bowman, then a storekeeper at Windsor, N. Y., taking enough each Monday morning for a week, and returning every Saturday night to Windsor."

She remembers that they talked of means for separating the salt from the fresh water, and that a dry goods box was proposed, and brought out as having something to do with this purpose. She *believes* this was in 1799, when she was little more than five years old. If this is correct, it was prior to Judge De Haert's residence in Binghamton, and only a prelude to his more persistent efforts after he left there.

Another statement is, that Abinoam Hinds and Isaac Perkins, who came to Bridgewater in 1802, were the discoverers of the

spring. It is situated on the south side of Silver Creek, near its junction with Fall Brook, and about a mile west of Franklin Forks. The stream had been turned from its course and made to run over the spring, the basin of which was hollowed out of the rock with a tomahawk. They found it covered with a large spoon, and a stone laid over it. They could dip but a little at a time, but succeeded in boiling salt.

A newspaper correspondent, in 1871, says:—

“There was a tradition from the time of the first settlement of the county that there was a salt spring there, which had been destroyed by the Indians by turning the creek over it.

“It is certain that previous to the operations of De Haert, Fall Creek as it left the gorge followed the base of the bluff on the south side of the flat, passing over the spring, and was changed by De Haert to its present channel.”

The following is taken from the ‘Susquehanna Register,’ under date of Nov. 28, 1828:—

“Some fifteen years ago, a salt spring was discovered about six miles in a northeast direction from Montrose. It had been covered over, probably by Indians; and, on removing the cover, we are told, a wooden ladle was found lying in the spring.

“The water is strongly impregnated with sulphur and iron, with a saline taste at first disagreeable; and the gas, which is developed in large quantities, is highly inflammable.

“As there was not enough water in the spring to render the making of salt from it an object of importance, Balthaser De Haert built a cabin and took up his abode in the wilderness; and, assisted by his brother, sunk a well about twenty feet, when they came to a rock. Then they commenced sinking a shaft into the rock; but his brother died (in 1813), and Judge De Haert was left without much assistance, and with limited means. He continued with a perseverance worthy of better success, progressing but slowly until he induced a number of capitalists to engage in the work with him. About five years ago—or in Jan. 1824—after sinking a shaft to the depth of 300 feet, it was supposed they had struck a fissure that would yield an abundance of salt water, but it proved a delusion. Judge De Haert soon after left the country, and the project was wholly abandoned.”

The correspondent previously mentioned, in reference to this adds:—

“I had supposed that De Haert’s operations were at an earlier date than would appear by the article from the ‘Register,’ and that he left the country before Mr. Biddle commenced. Mr. Biddle’s operations closed in the winter of 1824.”

About forty years later a writer in the ‘Montrose Republican’ made the following statement in regard to the operations at the same spring:—

“The first boring was done under direction of Judge De Haert, and about three hundred feet was accomplished, when the enterprise was given up for several years, and the lands passed into the hands of Colonel Biddle, who had the work renewed; and about two hundred feet more was drilled, which made the total depth of the well, according to the best data which can now be had, about five hundred feet. The enterprise was given up about the

year 1825, and the land on which the spring is located was taken up by settlers, and improved and cultivated. The tools used by Judge De Haert and Col. Biddle for boring, were such, that several years were spent by both parties in getting down the distance which they bored. They used a spring pole worked by hand. The water from the drill-hole was always more sulphury than salty, and often bubbles would rise to the surface which, if touched with fire, would flash like powder.

"In January last (1865), the well and fifteen acres surrounding, were bought by a company from New York city, for the purpose of boring for petroleum.

"This company, unlike Messrs. De Haert and Biddle, work with more power than a 'spring pole.' Their motive power is a fifteen horse-power engine, and their drills are of the most improved patterns. The old drill hole, which was three and a quarter inches in diameter, they are reaming to four and a half inches."

Either this writer was misinformed as to the object of the company, or it appears now to be given up. The editor of the 'Montrose Democrat,' having in his possession the "Prospectus of the Susquehanna Salt and Mining Co.," a copy of which was handed him by the president of the company, F. J. Wall, N.Y., states, Jan. 1871:—

"In 1865, the 'Susquehanna Salt Works Co.' purchased the property, and sunk a well to the depth of 650 feet, with a $4\frac{1}{2}$ inch bore, at an expense of \$28,000, erecting buildings, tanks, and salt block, etc. Several veins of fresh and salt water were passed through at the depth of 380 feet; but from that time on until the present depth of 650 feet no more fresh water, but some excellent veins of brine were found; the last, within a few feet of the bottom, was the strongest of any yet found. The company started their block, and manufactured about twenty tons of fine dairy salt. Feeling that the amount made was not sufficient to make it pay well for the investment, and being New Yorkers who had the matter on speculation, instead of parties locally interested, they refused to pay any more assessments toward further developing the resources of the well, causing the project to be abandoned until purchased by the present company. The salt made was of the very best quality, and was so pronounced by competent judges in New York.

"The new company have purchased the entire title and interest to the property, and have secured a charter from the State of New York. The stock is fully paid up, and they have all the fixtures necessary for operation.

"They have determined to sink the well at least 200 feet below its present depth, which will make it 850 feet; which is the depth of the best wells both at Syracuse and Saganaw. The company being in the hands of parties in this vicinity, such as Alanson Chalker, of Corbettsville, gen. supt.; John S. Tarbell, of Montrose, vice-pres.; and others, our knowledge of the enterprise of the men leads us to believe that whatever resources the well contains will soon be developed."

The same month, the company bored to a depth of nearly 800 feet, and found a vein of brine richer than any previously reached.

Dr. D. A. Lathrop, in order to test the strength of brine in the well, evaporated seventy-two pounds of brine, which produced ten pounds and nine ounces of salt.

The 'Gleaner,' published at Wilkes-Barre, by C. Miner, in 1815, stated, that—

"Three persons had come to Middletown from the State of New York, and told Mr. Brister they had reason to believe there was a salt spring on his farm, and if he would let them come in on equal shares with him they would endeavor to find it. He agreed, and they dug in the place directed (by the Indians, who formerly lived there, it is supposed), and were so fortunate as to hit upon the right spot. On digging through three feet, they came to a well five or six feet deep, laid up with logs and covered by a large flat stone. It had evidently been worked by the aborigines."

Nothing further is known of this spring, unless, as one has stated, it was near where Andrew Canfield began his clearing; or, as another makes it, *on* his farm (the one now owned by Egbert Stedwell) and near the line of Ira Brister's. It was certainly on the Stedwell farm that a chartered company began operations about fifteen years later.

January, 1831, the Hon. A. H. Read, then member of assembly from this district, reported a bill to incorporate the Wyalusing Salt Manufacturing Company. In March following, it passed the House, and, a little later, probably the Senate; as, in October, of the same year, the commissioners who had been appointed—Salmon Bosworth, Ira Brister, Jabez Hyde, Jr., Daniel Ross, Dimon Boswick—gave notice of a meeting of the stockholders for the election of proper officers. Ira Brister was made president of the company; Otis Ross, now living in Middletown, was one of the stockholders; and his son Norman, now in Michigan, superintended the sinking of the shaft in this spring to the depth of four or five hundred feet, "but did not find salt water, and the bits were left in the shaft."

But this was not the first enterprise of the kind in Middletown. In 1825 R. H. Rose and Samuel Milligan had a well dug in the edge of the marsh, at the foot of the mountain, about half a mile above Middletown Center, on the farm formerly occupied by Silas Beardslee, and now owned by John Cahill; and where several previous attempts to sink wells had been made, by different parties, though these had been *in* the marsh, and were unsuccessful, on account of quicksands.

The drilling made by the employés of Messrs. Rose & Milligan extended between four hundred and five hundred feet. In 1828, the shaft was sunk fifty feet lower. Nine bushels and thirty-five pounds of salt were obtained here at one time; and, at another time, nine bushels and six pounds—at the rate of one bushel from fifty gallons of water. The rock had been reached about twenty-six feet below the surface.

The 'Susquehanna County Republican' of 1825 stated that the well had been examined by a gentleman well versed in the manufacture of salt, and "from his estimate of it," it was added, "hopes are entertained that we shall be able to keep pace with our neighboring counties (blest with water privileges and canal

prospects), in the march of prosperity and general improvement of the country."

It was, probably, to this well that reference was made in 'Gordon's Gazetteer,' published in 1832, by the remark that "it contains as much salt as the ordinary waters of Salina."

John Darrow and David Green made salt in this well about 1833, but by this time, those who had used the salt for two years, were ready to give it up; it was said to contain a poisonous ingredient, fatal to cats and dogs, and on this account the well was abandoned.

During the oil-fever of 1865, a well 600 feet in depth was sunk seventy feet from the Rose & Milligan well, by parties seeking for petroleum, but without success. This is known as the Coryell well.

A few miles east of Mr. Brister's, on land owned formerly by Jesse Birchard, near the middle branch of the Wyalusing in Forest Lake, there was a spring, early celebrated as a deer and elk lick. It certainly seems strange that near a stream "where there were more deer licks than on any other stream in the country," salt in abundance has not been secured. The very name, by a signification elsewhere given, indicates that the vicinity was once an excellent place for hunting.

The following items are clipped from different published statements, which are endorsed by the proprietors of the Mineral Spring in Rush:—

"This remarkable spring, situated about ten miles west of Montrose, and about three quarters of a mile from Snyder's hotel, near the Wyalusing Creek, in Rush, for some time has had more than a local reputation. Invalids, not only from this county, Binghamton, Owego, and other surrounding towns, but also from New York and Philadelphia, have visited the spring, and used its waters, which have been used for medicinal purposes by the inhabitants in the immediate vicinity, for more than half a century. It belonged to the Drinker estate, but for many years the title of the land was vested in Wm. D. Cope, Esq., of Philadelphia, a large land-owner in this county. He had, until recently, refused to part with his title."

"A number of years ago, rude shower-baths were put up at the spring, free to the public use—or at most a slight compensation was charged, to assist in keeping up repairs. At times no less than 700 persons visited the baths in a single day. But the water was very cold, and there being no means of warming it, the baths fell into disuse, and went into decay. J. D. Pepper has occupied the land upon which the spring is situated, under a lease from Mr. Cope, for more than twenty years. Mr. Pepper has given away the water freely to all who came for it. He informs us that hundreds of people from the surrounding country visited this spring at all times of the year, and carried away its water in bottles, jugs, barrels, and other vessels in large quantities. The spring and farm upon which it is situated were purchased in 1869 by E. S. Butterfield, Esq., of Syracuse, N. Y., in company with his brother A. D. Butterfield, of Montrose, who have made preparations for bottling and selling its waters, and have erected a commodious house for the accommodation of invalids and others who desire to visit the spring, and use its waters."

"The water of this spring, we are informed, has been found beneficial for

most diseases of the kidneys, rheumatic and cutaneous affections, scrofula, and impurities of the blood.

"The character of the water is clear, sparkling, and almost tasteless; a fish will live in it but two or three hours.

"The following is a qualitative analysis made by Dr. A. B. Prescott, professor of chemistry in Michigan University; his quantitative analysis being withheld to prevent the imposition of chemicals upon the public, pretending to contain the same constituents and properties as the water itself:—

"Chlorides of magnesium, potassium, and lime; carbonates of magnesia, soda, and lithia; phosphoric, silicic, and carbonic acids; chlorine; protoxide of iron."

The following is a newspaper item:—

"The mineral springs on the Riley Creek, about one mile south of the old John Riley farm, in Auburn, is causing some little excitement at present (1871).

"All trace of the spring for the last twenty years was lost, until very recently. It has just been cleared and a barrel sunk in it, so that the water can be easily obtained. Many people are visiting the spring, and bringing away jugs and bottles of water to test its reported wonderful curative effects."

Also, in Great Bend township an old spring appears to have been discovered, or at least, made available within a year or two.

And still another:—

"A mineral spring was discovered in 1871 on the farm of Widow John Rosencrants, in Dimock township, near the Meshoppen Creek, half a mile above the State Road. The water of this spring has not yet been analyzed; but judging from the smell, taste, and appearances, the ingredients are sulphur and iron. On confining the water in a jug, the presence of sulphur is acknowledged by all; and a portion of the iron precipitates itself from the water, in a few days' time, and the smell and taste soon disappear. Allowing the air to come in contact with the water in an open bottle, it turns to a dark color; but if the bottle is kept corked, the water seems to remain good any length of time."

At Oakland village may be seen remains indicating an extinct oil enterprise which involved a considerable outlay, and the destruction of not a few ill-founded hopes. Still, in 1871, there are suppositions that petroleum may yet be found in the township.

Little Meadows and Auburn oil-wells were owned by the Tuscarora Petroleum and Mining Company, the principal officers being located in Owego, N. Y., but the stockholders being in Susquehanna, Bradford, and Wyoming Counties.

[The following account is furnished, upon request, by M. L. Lacey, Esq.]

The well in Auburn is on land now owned by A. F. and L. B. Lacey, formerly by E. Billings.

"The Petroleum Company here sunk their first well, along with about \$9000 of their capital. The fact that upon one corner of the old Billings lot there was a deer lick in old times, a great resort for wild game—induced the early settlers to dig for salt. Men are yet living along the Susquehanna, who used to come here, when boys, with their kettles, and manufacture enough for their own use. This fact in connection with the large quantity

of inflammable gas that could be seen coming up from the bed of the creek at different places, induced the projectors of the company to believe that there might be treasure under ground, even here, that would pay for seeking. A few energetic men took the matter in hand and succeeded in organizing the company and raising sufficient capital to put down a well. The 17th November, 1865, witnessed the first blow towards driving the pipe, which struck the rock at a depth of sixty feet from the surface. By the 1st of January, 1866, the boring had reached a depth of 525 feet, passing through a crevice at the depth of 340 feet, and striking a vein of salt water strongly impregnated with sulphur: which commenced flowing from the well, accompanied by inflammable gas, at the rate of two to three gallons per minute. At the depth of 493 feet, after passing through red shale, white quartz, gray wacke, and light, hard sand-rock, a crevice was struck which sent up a large quantity what oil men call 'black gas.' By the last day of January, a depth of 780 feet was reached, during the last 20 feet of which, the shows of oil were so abundant after passing the second sand-rock, that the company determined to cease boring for the purpose of testing the well. Owing to a delay in the shipment of the tubing, the test was not made for some two weeks, by which time the show of oil had almost entirely ceased. The test proving unsuccessful, the boring was resumed about the 20th of February, and continued until about the middle of March, at which time a depth of 1004 feet had been reached. After giving the well as thorough a test as was practicable with the means at the company's command, it was abandoned, and the engine and machinery removed to Little Meadows for the purpose of testing that section. Thus ended the most thorough attempt ever made to develop the mineral or *oleaginous* resources of Auburn. The experiment was watched with considerable curiosity, and many were disappointed that it did not prove an exception to nine out of every ten wells put down in the oil regions."

At Little Meadows, also, the company's efforts were fruitless. Two wells about half a mile apart were sunk, but neither of them to half the depth of the Auburn well. The rock proved "too shelly," and the enterprise was abandoned.

A well was also sunk at Bear Swamp, by a gentleman from Owego, but without success. Some party or parties made an attempt at Friendsville, which proved a failure.

CHAPTER XXXVI.

AGRICULTURE AND THE MECHANIC ARTS.

THE following letter is Dr. R. H. Rose's reply to queries (apparently from a gentleman from Connecticut), respecting the quality of the soil, climate, etc., of Susquehanna County.

SILVER LAKE, August 2, 1814.

SIR: . . . The country here will admit of a general settlement; there is a very small proportion of waste land.

There is little interval land; the upland in general is equal if not superior to the interval land in depth of soil.

Twenty bushels of winter wheat per acre is a frequent crop; twenty-five bushels is not unfrequent, and upwards of thirty have been raised.

Wheat, soon after harvest, generally sells from one dollar to one dollar and fifty cents, and from spring till the following harvest, from one dollar and fifty cents to two dollars per bushel.

Good crops of Indian corn are raised; it bears about two-thirds the price of wheat.

The climate and soil are favorable to the production of apples, plumbs, peaches, pears, etc. The natural grape-vines grow to a great size, but their cultivation has not been attempted.

Eighteen inches is considered a deep snow; it has been two feet; about a foot is the common depth. I do not recollect the commencement of the winter. Young leaves have been plucked on the 1st of April from the bushes.

Good flax is raised. The potatoes are excellent and the product large.

The country is as healthful as any part of America. The fever and ague is not known; we have no prevailing diseases. The typhus, malignant, or spotted fever of the Eastern States has not visited us.¹ The climate seems to agree remarkably well with the constitutions of the settlers from your State, and being in the same latitude as Connecticut, cannot be much different. The Connecticut settlers, however, say, we have not the long eastern storms to which they were subject.

Labor is high, people preferring to clear farms for themselves to working for others; another cause is the abundance of money in this state; it was never more abundant than at present. In clearing, all the timber is cut down. The price of clearing and fencing is from twelve to fifteen dollars per acre; the first crop generally pays this, if carefully put in, besides all the expenses of seed, harrowing, reaping, threshing, etc. The seed is harrowed in without plowing; grass seed is sown with the grain in the fall or the following spring.

The houses are either frame or log; none of stone, as we have not lime.

An industrious, good farmer (and none other need come here), may, with common success, pay for his farm from the grain that he raises, for which he can always get cash and a good market. The country, however, is more particularly favorable to grass, and is not, it is presumed, exceeded in this respect by any part of the United States.

Some parts afford plenty of chestnut timber for fencing; in other parts it is scarce. White ash is used for rails in some places. There is very little oak timber in the country; what there is, is of a large size. White pine in some parts is plenty, large and good; however, take the country generally, there is not more than is sufficient for its consumption. There is no walnut. Cherry is plenty and of a large size.

Salt sells from four to five dollars per barrel of five bushels.

Shad are caught in the Susquehanna. There are no salmon. The Susquehanna River is about ten miles distant from the tract, and is navigable with rafts, arks, and large boats to Baltimore.

Cattle are dear.

Wheat is sown in September and October, and reaped in July and August. Rye grows large; it is frequently upwards of eight feet high. Very little spring wheat is sown.

No slaves are allowed in the State.

Springs are very numerous, the county abounds with them, no place is better watered. The water is cold, pure, and wholesome, of a soft and excellent quality—dissolves soap well—has never been known to deposit a sediment in tea-kettles, but has been observed by some persons from your State in a very short time to dissolve and remove obstructions of that kind from the kettles which they have brought into the country.

¹ Five years later it swept through the county.

There are no streams here on which they raft boards, etc., until they get near the river. I believe there is not a rattle-snake on my tract.

The settlers are mostly from Vermont, Connecticut, and New York. They are generally a moral, religious people, principally Presbyterians; there are some Baptists. Ministers of both denominations are established in the country.

As to politics, there is very little party spirit here; and it is the wish of the most respectable part of the community to avoid it as the bane of all social comfort.

I will allow you ten per cent. commission out of all payments made to me for my *wild lands* by such persons as you shall send on as *settlers*—I sell to none else.

I enclose you a small map of the land, and remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Standard Value of Lands in 1816.

IMPROVED LANDS.	Auburn.	Bridgewater.	Choconut.	Clifford.	Gibson.	Great Bend.	Harford.	Harmony.	Jackson.	Lawsville.	Lenox.	Middletown.	New-Milford.	Rush.	Silver Lake.	Springville.	Waterford.
First quality.....	\$8	\$30	\$12	\$14	\$14	\$20	\$12	\$16	\$5	\$12	\$12	\$8	\$20	\$16	\$8	\$12	\$12
Second quality....	6	15	8	10	10	12	8	8	6	8	8	6	10	10	6	8	8
Third quality....	4	10	6	6	6	6	6	4	4	5	5	4	5	5	4	6	6
Unseated lands...	\$1 to 3	\$2 to 5	\$1 to 3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	\$1 to 4	\$1 to 3	..	..	..

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

The first agricultural society in Susquehanna County was organized January 27, 1820, and was mainly the result of the energy and enthusiasm of Robert H. Rose. He was one of the corresponding secretaries of the Luzerne Agricultural Society, as early as 1810.

The first officers of the society were: R. H. Rose, president; Putnam Catlin, vice-president; Isaac Post, treasurer; J. W. Raynsford, secretary; I. P. Foster, recording secretary.

The society held a meeting in September following its organization, but in December it was deemed expedient to organize anew, so as to obtain the benefits of an act of assembly for the promotion of agricultural and domestic manufactures, passed in March preceding.

The same president and secretary were re-elected December 6, 1820; Dr. Asa Park, treasurer; Cols. Fred. Bailey and Thos. Parke, D. Post, Z. Bliss, Rufus Lines, Jonah Brewster, Joab Tyler, and Walter Lyon, Esqrs., Messrs. Calvin Leet and William Smith, directors.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Elder Davis Dimock, and was followed by an address by Dr. Rose. In this he stated:—

“The soil of the beech and maple lands which compose the greater part of Susquehanna County is a sandy loam, about eighteen inches in depth, resting on a compact bed of argillaceous earth and minute sand, which from its re-

tentive nature is extremely well calculated to prevent the escape of moisture, and to preserve the fertilizing quality of the manures which may be intermingled with the superincumbent soil."

Dr. Rose was indefatigable in promoting farming interests; offered large inducements to the raising of stock; and in carrying out his own extensive plans, furnished employment to many persons; thus incidentally extending his ideas doubtless to the permanent benefit of this section.

The first agricultural show occurred November 10, 1821. Captain Watrous's artillery company accompanied members to the court-house after they had viewed the stock, when they listened again to an address from the president. He said: "To the hilliness of the county we are indebted for the salubrity of the air, the abundance of the springs, and the purity of the water; also, for the fewest sheep with disordered livers. He referred to the fact that our soil is peculiarly adapted to grazing. He advised farmers to fatten cattle with grain in winter, discouraging distilleries; "whiskey must be taken in wagons to market, but cattle can *walk* to market with their fat; whiskey does mischief, good beef hurts no one." He believed \$1000 worth of cattle could be driven from this county to New York or Philadelphia for the sum which it would cost to haul \$1000 worth of wheat five miles.

He stated that the cost of clearing land here was not more than the expense of hauling out the manure and ploughing old lands, and added: "Putnam Catlin, on his first settlement, cleared, a field of thirty acres; the first crop of grain paid all the expenses of clearing and those attendant on the crop, paid for the land, and left \$3.00 per acre over."

Statements of the Agricultural Society for 1821.

To personal subscriptions, personal and county donations, and	
paid for 1822	\$177 00
Paid the following persons premiums from \$5 to \$2, amounting to	109 00

To William Ross, for the best acre of wheat; David Post, best oats, and best half acre of potatoes; R. H. Rose, best quarter acre ruta бага; Jacob P. Dunn, best mare; Archi Marsh, best bull; John Griffin, best cow; Charles Perrigo, best yoke of oxen; R. H. Rose, best ram; Putnam Catlin, best ewe; William Ward, best boar; Robert Eldridge, best cheese; Peter Herkimer, greatest quantity of maple sugar (upwards of 100 tons were manufactured the previous spring in the county); R. H. Rose, best quality of maple sugar; (J. C. Sherman made 1127 pounds from 200 trees); Erastus Catlin, best woolen cloth; John Kingsley, second best do.; Putnam Catlin, best specimen flannel; S. S. Mulford, best carpeting; Samuel Weston, best specimen linen; James Dean, second best do.; Jesse Sherman, best plough; R. H. Rose, best harrow; Dalton Tiffany, greatest quantity of stone fence; Jonah Brewster, greatest quantity of harvesting without spirits; Mrs. Rice, a grass bonnet; Mrs. Emmeline Chapman, a straw bonnet; William C. Turrel, hair cloth.

For 1822.

Premiums paid amounted to \$89. October 9th, 1822.

To Sylvanus Hatch, best breeding mare; Jesse A. Birchard, best bull; Almon H. Read, cow; Benjamin Hayden, oxen; Archi Marsh, boar; Zebulon Deans, sow; David Turrel, one acre of corn (ninety-eight bushels and twenty-two quarts); Daniel Lathrop, wheat (twenty-six bushels and some quarts); Wm. C. Turrel, potatoes; Frederick Bailey, greatest quantity of cheese; Thomas Parke, best quality do.; Allen Upson, greatest quantity and best quality of butter; Charles Perrigo, best loaf of bread; Peter Herkimer, greatest quantity of maple sugar; Isaac Smith, best quality do.; Joseph Butterfield, greatest quantity of stone wall; Samuel Weston, greatest quantity of flax; Wm. C. Turrel, the greatest quantity of domestic manufactures in one family in one year; Mary Packer, best half-dozen worsted stockings; Eunice Parke, best yarn stockings; Ruth Duer, best coverlid; Mary Packer, best quality of linen; Harriet and Mary Crocker, second best do.; Sophia Rice, American Leghorn bonnet; Elisha Mack, best fanning-mill.

In the spring of 1824 the 'Gazette' stated that the society had been "suffered to fall off, from lukewarmness in some, and by opposition in others;" and urged the *efficient* members "to assemble, and come to such resolutions as they may deem proper, either for the revival of the old, or the establishment of a new society;" neither of which is reported.

In 1838, the number of farms was 2768, averaged size, 105 acres; 5459 acres were given to wheat, 1624 to rye, 8404 to oats, 3330 to corn; meadow, 34,792 acres; potatoes, 2367; turnips, 73; buckwheat, 3546; flax, 195; ruta bagas, 32 (C. Carmalt raised 200 bushels per acre). There were 3998 horses, 2919 oxen, 8187 cows, 51,609 sheep, 9033 swine; 22,746 neat cattle of all kinds. Butter sold, 257,325 lbs.; cheese, 58,559 lbs; maple-sugar, 293,-783 lbs.

The first call for a meeting of farmers and mechanics *with practical results* was made 7th January, 1846; on the 26th following a meeting was held at the court-house, when Wm. Jessup stated the object of the meeting; a committee of fifteen from different townships was appointed to draft a constitution, and another of three to prepare a circular calling attention to the subject; and a committee of five from each township to attend a meeting for organization. The latter took place March 4, 1846. Caleb Carmalt was chosen president; Benjamin Lathrop and Thomas Johnson, vice-presidents; Thomas Nicholson, corresponding secretary; Geo. Fuller, recording secretary; D. D. Warner, treasurer; Wm. Jessup, Wm. Main, Frederick Bailey, George Walker, Charles Tingley, Abraham Du Bois, Stephen Barnum, managers, or executive committee. The constitution and by-laws had been drafted by the committee the day before at Judge Jessup's office.

Horticulture and domestic and rural economy were made objects of attention, though the "Promotion of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts" was the principal aim of the society.

The first fair-ground was on land leased from David Post, adjoining the garden of G. V. Bentley on the south, and now occupied by the residences of Dr. R. Thayer and Nelson Hawley. The road leading to it was long known as Fair Street. The lease was only a nominal one, the use of the land in reality being given.

In November, 1861, the society procured of Avery Frink a deed of one hundred and three and a half perches of land in the upper part of the borough, which land with additions has been made the county fair-ground.

The existing books of the society date only from 1861. At least two presidents had succeeded Caleb Carmalt previous to that year—Wm. Jessup and Henry Drinker.

The officers for 1861 and succeeding years have been as follows:—

Presidents, Abel Cassidy, M. L. Catlin, Samuel F. Carmalt, Benjamin Parke, J. C. Morris, Wm. H. Jessup (five years), James E. Carmalt.

Vice-Presidents, J. F. Deans, J. Blanding, Wm. H. Jessup, S. F. Carmalt, B. Parker, Stephen Breed, R. S. Birchard, H. M. Jones, M. L. Catlin, H. H. Harrington, David Summers, E. T. Tiffany, Eli Barnes, John Tewksbury, F. H. Hollister, James Kasson, H. H. Skinner, C. J. Hollister, H. C. Conklin, Abner Griffis.

Executive Committee (first appointed in 1863), Alfred Baldwin, S. F. Carmalt, J. C. Morris, F. H. Hollister, J. S. Tarbell, J. E. Carmalt, A. Frink, H. H. Skinner, H. H. Harrington, D. F. Austin, Allen Shelden. [Three on committee, one new one each year.]

Recording Secretaries, C. L. Brown (four years), C. M. Gere (two years), C. W. Tyler, G. A. Jessup, M. M. Mott, H. C. Tyler.

Corresponding Secretaries, C. M. Gere (two years), A. N. Bullard, C. L. Brown, C. W. Tyler, J. E. Carmalt, G. A. Jessup, J. R. Lyons.

Treasurers, Azor Lathrop, C. M. Gere (1868-72).

1861. Membership, \$1 00 per annum.

1862. Life membership on payment of \$10 00.

1863. Society out of debt, a condition necessary to secure the legacy of C. Carmalt.

1864. In January it was resolved to institute proceedings to procure a charter, and Henry Drinker, Wm. H. Jessup, and S. F. Carmalt constituted the committee appointed for this purpose. The petition presented to the court April 12th was signed by twenty-nine "Members associated for the advancement of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts." The society was fully incorporated August 24, 1864.

During this year, and while president of the society, S. F. Carmalt died, and Benjamin Parke (V. P.) filled the vacancy until his own election in 1865. From his address before the society October 5, 1865, at the nineteenth annual fair the following paragraph is taken:—

"Having attended the State Agricultural Fair at Williamsport last week, I can say that, with the exception of a very few fine horses there exhibited, the stock now upon this ground exceeds in number, and is superior in quality to that exhibited at the State fair; and setting aside the agricultural implements and machinery, the manufactures and specimens of merchandise—much of which was from other States and exhibited as an advertisement to

the public—with the expensively prepared and very elegant floral tent, with its fountain and walks, our fair as an *agricultural* exhibition is fully its equal.

"Susquehanna is probably *the butter county* of our State. No better quality of butter is made any where than is here made. The increased price and the facility of sending it to New York and Philadelphia has not only stimulated but largely increased its production within the past few years.

"The establishment of cheese factories, and their great success wherever established, will gradually work a change in the dairy business; which, without lessening the profits, will greatly lessen the labor and care, and add much to the health and comfort of dairy women and their children."

HON. BENJAMIN PARKE, LL.D.

BENJAMIN PARKE, LL.D., is a son of Col. Thomas Parke, the first settler of Dimock. He left home at the age of twenty-three to study his profession, and afterwards settled at Harrisburg as an attorney-at-law. While there Mr. P., in company with Wm. F. Packer (afterwards governor), edited and published the 'Keystone,' then the central and leading organ of the Democratic party of Pennsylvania. After disposing of that paper he for a time edited the 'Harrisburg Argus,' and commenced the publication of the 'Pennsylvania Farmer and Common-School Intelligencer.'

In 1834 he was appointed by Governor Wolf to be the prothonotary of the Middle District of the Supreme Court, consisting of sixteen counties. He also held the office of commissioner in bankruptcy, and was the principal compiler of Parke and Johnson's 'Digest of the Laws of Pennsylvania,' published in 1837.

After thirty years of professional toil he returned to Susquehanna County, and now glories in being numbered among her farmers.

1866. The Agricultural Society had a balance of \$1019 79 in the treasury. The land from the I. Post estate was deeded to the society—eight acres and three and a half perches, and additional land was procured from General D. D. Warner.

1867. Premiums on native cattle abolished. Premiums to boys under nineteen years of age for plowing to be the same as to men.

1868. Article XV. added to constitution, making only citizens of Pennsylvania and of Susquehanna County eligible to office in the society.

Resolution to make trial of mowers and reapers in June and July.

1869. Amendment of Article VI., relative to meetings of society, making them the first Tuesday evening of each quarter sessions of court.

Three days to be given to the fair, the first for plowing, as usual.

1870. Among the premiums offered were one year's subscription to the 'Scientific American,' 'American Agriculturist,' and 'Horticultural Journal.'

Proposed sale of stock at the fair, and to dig a well upon Fair Ground. Boys must be sixteen years of age to compete in plowing.

1871. Plans of new buildings. Change in mode of electing



Benjamin Parke

officers to be more democratic. At the twenty-fifth fair, in the fall of 1871, when there were one-third more entries than on any previous year, over \$1000 were taken in.

Fairs to be between the 10th September and the 20th October, and time to be fixed by executive committee.

1872. There have been eighty life members.

There are three cheese factories in the county, one on the farm of Sayre brothers in Silver Lake, one in South Bridgewater, and the third on the Asa Packer farm in Springville. The last is more extensive than the others, having capacity for the daily use of the milk of five hundred cows.

The Jackson Agricultural Society was organized in 1856; R. Harris, president, Wm. H. Bartlett, secretary and treasurer. It suspended on the breaking out of the war.

Glenwood Agricultural Fair was held in 1861-62-63, and then removed to Nicholson. F. P. Grow was president, and Asa Eaton, treasurer.

Harford Agricultural Society was established in 1866—the fifteenth annual fair taking place in the fall of 1872. The present president is H. M. Jones; secretary, E. C. Carpenter. Ira H. Parrish, D. L. Hine, Jackson Tingley, executive committee.

The Friendsville Fair, of several years' standing, is for the sale of stock, rather than its exhibition, no premiums being given.

The Canawacta Agricultural Society, now inactive, has a driving park in Oakland, which was graded at a cost of \$1000.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

ROADS, POST-OFFICES, ETC.

IF the surmise respecting "Ellicott's Road"—a road sometimes referred to in the earliest court records—is correct, it was the passage cut, in 1786, for the transportation of supplies during the running of the State line between New York and Pennsylvania, Andrew Ellicott¹ being the commissioner on the part of the latter in this business. On the 16th June, 1786—

"The General Assembly of Pennsylvania appointed Andrew Ellicott commissioner, to run and mark the northern boundary of the Commonwealth, and the State of New York appointed Samuel Holland and David Rittenhouse. They ascertained and fixed the beginning of the forty-third degree of north latitude on the Mohawk, or western branch of the Delaware—planted a stone marked New York, 1774, cut on the north side; and on

¹ Can it be that he was employed to survey the road once planned by the State to stretch across this section to Tioga Point? Such a route will be seen on map of old Luzerne.

the west side of said branch of the Delaware placed a heap of stones at water-mark, and, proceeding further west four perches, planted another stone with the words PENNSYLVANIA cut on the south side thereof." . . .

"And the said Andrew Ellicott, on the part of this Commonwealth, and James Clinton and Simeon Dewitt, on the part of the State of New York, did, in the year of our Lord 1786-7, in pursuance of the powers vested in them, run, fix, and ascertain the said boundary line, beginning at the first mentioned stone, and extending due west by a line of mile-stones to the bank of Lake Erie, etc."

The road terminating, in 1789, at the mouth of Cascade Creek, was the first in the county for general travel. In 1791 a road was cut through from the Delaware to Great Bend; the general course of it being since followed by the Newburgh turnpike. The early township roads have been mentioned in the Annals, with the road in 1798 from Tunkhannock to Great Bend, and another (1799-1801) from the forks of the Wyalusing to join the latter.

THE NEWBURGH TURNPIKE.

The first turnpike in the county connected Great Bend with Newburgh on the Hudson. It was begun in 1806 and finished in 1811. In the fall of 1872, a final meeting of the directors of the old Newburgh and Cocheton turnpike company was held at Newburgh. At Cocheton, on the Delaware River, the road referred to connected with the Cocheton and Great Bend turnpike, and together they were familiarly styled the Newburgh turnpike. This was among the first great highways constructed. Leading west from the Hudson River only one other preceded it—that leading from Albany westward. As the old landmark is no longer of any value to the stockholders, they are about giving it over to the several towns through which it runs. The length of the road from Cocheton to Great Bend is fifty miles. Beginning at the Delaware River, it passes through the towns of Damascus, Lebanon, and Mount Pleasant, in Wayne County; and Gibson, New Milford, and Great Bend in Susquehanna County. The act incorporating this pike was passed 29th March, 1804. Henry Drinker, Ed. Tilghman, Thos. Harrison, and Wm. Poyntell, of Philadelphia; John Conklin, Jason Torry, and Samuel Stanton, of Wayne County; Asahel Gregory, John Tyler, and Minna Du Bois of Luzerne (now Susquehanna) County, were appointed commissioners of the road. The road received no assistance from the State.

"It was built by individual enterprise; most of the stock was taken on the line of the road. It was constructed twenty feet wide, at a cost of \$1620 per mile. The materials are earth, stone, lime, and timber. Its form was convex, being about four inches higher in the centre than at the sides. During the first three years it paid a debt of \$11,000, besides keeping itself in repair. Some portions of this part of the State owe their early existence and growth to this road. It gave a decided impulse to the increase of population and improvements to the surrounding country."

THE MILFORD AND OWEGO TURNPIKE.

Passed 26th of January, 1807, an act to authorize the Governor to incorporate a company for making an artificial road by the nearest and best route, through the counties of Wayne and Luzerne, beginning at the river Delaware, where the proposed bridge is to be built, near the town of Milford, thence through the said town and the counties aforesaid to or near the forty-third mile-stone in the north line of the State. Time for completing the road extended to December 1, 1826.

By the act of 24th of March, 1817, the Governor was authorized to subscribe \$16,000 to the stock of the company, and as soon as five miles of the road is completed between Montrose and the Philadelphia and Great Bend turnpike, he is required to draw his warrant for a sum in proportion to the whole distance, and a like sum for every five miles, until the whole sum shall be drawn. It cost \$1300 per mile.

The president and managers of the Milford and Owego turnpike were authorized, by act of 20th of March, 1830, "to construct a branch or lateral turnpike road, beginning at or near Dundaff, thence to Carbondale, in Luzerne County, and thence to intersect the said Milford and Ohio turnpike road at the most convenient point east of the Lackawanna Creek."

STATE ROAD.

In 1808 an act was passed authorizing commissioners to explore and mark out a road from where the Cochection turnpike passes through Moosic Mountain to the west line of the State. This road is probably the one that left the turnpike at Robert Chandler's in Gibson, and running westward reached the Wyalusing at Grangerville.

BRIDGEWATER AND WILKES-BARRE TURNPIKE.

An act was passed 30th March, 1811, to incorporate a company for making a road from the northern boundary line of this State at the most suitable place, near the 28th mile-stone, to the place where the seat of justice is established for the county of Susquehanna, thence by best and nearest route to borough of Wilkes-Barre. The road was begun in 1813. The Clifford and Wilkes-Barre turnpike was also begun that year, and cost \$1200 per mile.

In 1818 books were opened for subscription to stock in the New Milford and Montrose turnpike; but it appears there never has been a turnpike between these two points, though more than twenty years later the subject was again engaging the attention of some of our most enterprising men.

PHILADELPHIA AND GREAT BEND TURNPIKE.

In 1818 the legislature passed "an act to authorize the governor to incorporate the President, Managers, and Company of the Philadelphia and Great Bend Turnpike Road," which should "commence at or near the 30th mile-stone on the Easton and Wilkes-Barre turnpike road, pass over the nearest and best ground through Leggett's Gap in Lackawannock Mountain, and terminate on the Cochection and Great Bend turnpike road, at or near the tavern of Ithamer Mott, in the county of Susquehanna." Work upon the road was begun in 1821. It followed the Nine Partners' Creek through Harford to Lenox post-office and Lenoxville, thence to the southern boundary of our county and below, as ordered by the act of legislature. Messrs. Thomas Meredith, William Ward, and Henry W. Drinker appear to have had charge of the contracts on this road—much of the business, at least, was in their hands. This great thoroughfare has ceased to be a toll road, and the travel over it is limited almost entirely to local business; but, in its day, it served to open a most desirable communication with Philadelphia, and contributed greatly to the advantage of the county.

The Belmont and Ochquaga turnpike was begun in 1821 and finished in 1825. The following turnpikes were incorporated as follows:—

Abington and Waterford, January, 1823; Dundaff and Tunkhannock, April, 1828; Dundaff and Honesdale, March, 1831; Lenox and Harmony, April, 1835; Lenox and Carbondale (past Clifford Corners), March, 1842, extended to South Gibson by act March, 1847; Brooklyn and Lenox, March, 1848; Tunkhannock Creek Company, March, 1849.

RAILROADS.

Among the earliest items respecting railroads in Susquehanna County we find the description of a route considered feasible as early as 1832. The immediate object then was to connect Owego with the Lackawanna coal-field, and a railroad was proposed—

"From the mouth of the Choconut Creek to its headwaters, thence to Forest Lake, thence by the valley of Pond Creek to near its mouth, thence across by the headwaters of the east branch of the Wyalusing, and thence by the best route to the headwaters of Horton's Creek, following said creek till it falls into the Tunkhannock."

The same year, at a meeting held in Friendsville the 7th of March, of which Samuel Milligan was president, Parley Coburn, vice-president, and George Walker and Ira Brister, secretaries, another route was proposed: from Owego, by the valleys of the Apolacon and the north branch of the Wyalusing, thence by the east branch to the vicinity of Montrose, and thence striking Horton's Creek, to follow it as above. It was claimed that the distance by this route from the Tunkhannock to Owego would be six miles

shorter than down the Salt Lick and *via* Great Bend to the same place, a survey of which was even then being made.

Mr. Milligan's speech, at the meeting referred to, was a very able one. After a review of the different routes proposed, he argued in favor of Montrose, stating the advantages of having a road run somewhat diagonally through the county.

A route similar to the last mentioned was proposed early in 1833 :—

"From Tunkhannock up the Hopbottom Creek to its head, thence by a moderate rise to the headwaters of the Snake Creek, down the Snake to its junction with the Silver Creek, thence up the Silver Creek, and thence by the Mud Creek to its forks; up the middle branch of Mud Creek to its head, thence by easy ground to a small creek emptying into Choconut Creek, and along Choconut Valley to the boundary of the State, where it could be taken up and continued by the people of Owego."

Still another was "from the mouth of Snake Creek to the head of the east branch of it, thence by the waters of Wolf Creek by Kingsley's mills to its intersection with the Hopbottom, and thence by said creek till it shall intersect Martin's Creek on James Seymour's route," etc.; for a little before this time, the late James Seymour had been appointed to make the survey of a road from some point on the Lackawanna, passing through Leggett's Gap, and by the way of the Tunkhannock and Martin's Creek to Great Bend on the Susquehanna.

All these projects were lost sight of apparently for some years upon the construction of a road westward from New York through Owego.

NEW YORK AND ERIE RAILROAD.—Extended reference to this road having been already made in the Annals, little need be added here. The following is an item from the 'Register' of February, 1841: "We are glad to see that our representative, F. Lusk, Esq., has procured the passage of a bill through the House to allow the New York and Erie Railroad to be laid through a portion of this county if required."

"ERIE'S GREAT RIVAL."—The Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Railroad proper extends from Great Bend, near the northern boundary of Pennsylvania, to the Delaware River, at a point about seven miles south of the Delaware Water Gap, through which it passes.

Exclusive of its recent extensions and roads acquired by lease, the Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Company comprises two divisions—the Northern and Southern—the former extending from Great Bend to Scranton (49 miles), and the latter from Scranton to the Delaware River (64 miles). The Northern Division was the first opened, October, 1851. The original organization was the Leggett's Gap Railroad Company. During the same year

the title was changed to the Lackawanna and Western Railroad Company.

The Southern Division was organized as the Delaware and Cobb's Gap Railroad Company, and finished in May, 1856. The two divisions were consolidated in April, 1853, under the style of the Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Railroad Company.

The object in constructing this railroad was to find an outlet north and east for the vast deposits of coal in the Lackawanna and Wyoming Valleys, as well as to build up a large manufacturing interest midway at a point where both coal and iron ore could be supplied with little or no cost of transportation.

Shortly after leaving Nicholson, the road reaches Martin's Creek, finds the summit at New Milford, and goes down Salt Lick to Great Bend, where it joins the New York and Erie.

The Valley Railroad is of great importance to the Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Company. It completes their line of 325 miles from New York to Oswego, leading to the greatest coal markets in the State. The divisions are as follows: Morris and Essex, from New York to Scranton, 149 miles; Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western, from Scranton to Great Bend, 47 miles; Valley, from Great Bend to Binghamton, 14 miles; Syracuse and Binghamton, 80 miles; Oswego and Syracuse, 35 miles.

The Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Company formerly paid about \$400,000 a year for the privilege of running their coal and freight trains over fourteen miles of Erie track.

The Lackawanna and Susquehanna Railroad is a branch of the Albany and Susquehanna, connecting with the latter at Nineveh, New York, and with the Jefferson Railroad near Starucca Viaduct, at Lanesboro, Susquehanna County. It is twenty-two miles in length.

"A charter was obtained at an early day, we believe as early as the year 1828, for a railroad from the Lackawanna Valley to Lanesboro. Other charters were also obtained at later dates, but nothing was effected toward building a railroad until Col. C. Freeman, member of assembly from Wayne County, at the session of 1851, secured a charter for the Jefferson Railroad Company, with Earl Wheeler, Charles S. Minor, Francis B. Penniman, and Benjamin B. Smith as corporators. This company was authorized to build a railroad from any point on the Delaware River, in Pike County, to the Susquehanna River, in Susquehanna County, through the county of Wayne. Under it a railroad has been built from the mouth of the Lackawanna, in Pike County, up said stream to Honesdale, under the auspices of the New York and Erie Railroad Company. Also the same company (the N. Y. and Erie), have under it built a railroad from Carbondale, north, through the eastern border of Susquehanna County, to Lanesboro. This latter road has been built under an

arrangement with the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, they furnishing the money, it is stated, by guaranteeing bonds of the Boston, Hartford, and Erie Railroad to a certain amount, and receiving payment in tolls upon coal, on the Jefferson Railroad, and other lines of the New York and Erie Railroad Company. A third rail has been laid upon this Jefferson Road to accommodate cars of different gauges. It is proposed to connect the two sections of the Jefferson Railroad, which will probably be done by a road extending up the Dyberry branch of the Lackawanna, from Honesdale either to the Ararat Summit, or through Griswold's Gap to Forest City station. [Hon. S. S. Benedict.]

THE MONTROSE RAILROAD.—The public began to be interested in this enterprise during the summer of 1868.

At a large and enthusiastic meeting in Montrose, January 20, 1869—

"B. S. Bentley gave it as his opinion that a railroad would be built through Montrose within five years, or never. Here were the two interests that must and would be brought together—the Albany and Susquehanna Railroad and the consumers of coal in the region through which it passes, on the one hand, and the Lehigh Valley Railroad and the coal fields of which it is an outlet, on the other. The railroad by which these two interests are to be connected must pass through Susquehanna County, either by the proposed Montrose route or by another further west.

"If the people of Montrose show a determination to build it, then Judge Packer and the Albany and Susquehanna Road will no doubt lend their aid. W. H. Jessup spoke much to the same effect, urging the importance of immediate action, and the procuring of proper legislation to forward the object. W. J. Turrell stated that Judge Packer had said it was quite important to the mining region to have access to the agricultural products of Susquehanna County.

"George Walker stated some facts with regard to the two routes—the Tunkhannock and that from Meshoppen. The Meshoppen route is somewhat shorter, being only 20 miles, and has a grade of about 60 feet to the mile. The Tunkhannock route has a grade of 100 feet to the mile for the first four miles, and after that only 40 feet.

"On motion, Messrs. Abner Griffis, F. B. Chandler, and S. H. Sayre were appointed a committee on permanent organization, to report at the next meeting. On motion, W. H. Jessup and W. J. Turrell were appointed to prepare a charter and obtain an act of incorporation by the legislature for a railroad from some point on the Lehigh Valley Road at or near Tunkhannock or Meshoppen, to the State line of New York, with a view to connecting with the Albany and Susquehanna Railroad at Binghamton."

We gather the following from the annual report of the Montrose Railroad Company, January 8th, 1872 :—

"In pursuance of the charter granted by the legislature of Pennsylvania incorporating the Montrose Railway Company, a meeting was held at the public school-house in Springville, on the 27th day of April, A. D. 1871, when the following gentlemen were duly elected :—

"*President*—James I. Blakeslee.

"*Directors*—Wm. H. Cooper, Samuel H. Sayre, H. K. Sherman, Samue Stark, C. L. Brown, C. M. Gere, D. Thomas, G. E. Palen, W. H. Jessup, S. Tyler, B. F. Blakeslee, Felix Ansart.

"At the first meeting of the board, held at Springville, on the 27th of May

following, it was directed that a corps of engineers be at once employed under the supervision of Mr. F. Ansart, Jr., to survey and locate a cheap route for a narrow gauge railroad, extending from Tunkhannock to Montrose. It is believed that a narrow gauge road will be sufficient for all the business likely to be offered, and the cost of construction being so much less than a wide, or a four feet eight and a half inch gauge, it is expected that handsome dividends will be earned, which would hardly result from a first-class wide gauge road.

"The Lehigh Valley Railroad Company has agreed to furnish the rails, ties, spikes, and splices necessary for the superstructure, as soon as the grading has been completed and paid for, by receipts from stock subscriptions; they agreeing, also, to receive the payment due them in stock at par. That company has contracted for the greater number of the ties to be furnished from along the route of the proposed road, and they will thus distribute some ten thousand dollars to parties who may have taken more stock than they could otherwise conveniently provide for.

"The survey was commenced on the 15th of May, 1871. The work is now under contract and progressing favorably.

"The line runs from the depot of the Pennsylvania and New York Canal and Railroad Company, at Tunkhannock, to Marcy's Pond, thence along the west bank of the pond to a summit between the waters of Marcy's Pond and the Meshoppen Creek; crossing the same, it runs in nearly a direct line to the village of Springville; thence by the village of Dimock, into the borough of Montrose.

"The length of the road is twenty-seven and twelve one-hundredth miles. The present terminus of the road at Montrose is 1045 feet higher than the railroad of the Pennsylvania and New York Canal and Railroad Company at Tunkhannock. There are six principal summits: the Marcy's Pond Summit, Lemon, Springville, Woodbourne, Decker, and Montrose."

The engineer reports:—

"In grading the road, 120,000 cubic yards of material will have to be moved. There will be 4000 cubic yards of rectangular culvert masonry; 500 cubic yards of bridge masonry; and two bridges, each of one hundred feet in length, one across the canal at Tunkhannock, and across Meshoppen Creek. There will be six hundred feet of trestling, of the average height of 26 feet.

"As the road is under contract to be built ready for the track for \$101,000, this sum can be taken for an approximate estimate of the cost of graduation, masonry, bridges, trestling, grubbing, and clearing."

Prior to September 16, 1872, the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company had expended \$91,000 on the Montrose Railroad. Hon. Asa Packer's offer to furnish the rolling-stock holds good.

We understand that the Susquehanna Depot people are really in earnest and wide-awake on the question of extending the Montrose Railroad to their borough.

We have received a map of "The Skinner's Eddy and Little Meadows Railroad," which it is proposed to build from the north branch division of the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company's river route, at Skinner's Eddy, northward to Owego, with a branch from Little Meadows to Binghamton.

Another road is proposed from Binghamton to the coal fields of Sullivan County, and through Sullivan and Lycoming Counties to the city of Williamsport:—

"A survey of the line from Binghamton to Dushore, in Sullivan County, is to be made by John Evans. The route to be first surveyed is down the Susquehanna River, on the south side, to near the mouth of the Choconut Creek, and then up the creek to the summit of St. Joseph's, and thence down the Wyalusing Creek to Wyalusing village, on the Susquehanna River; thence, continuing in a southwest direction up a small stream known as Sugar Run, and on to Dushore. The distance from Binghamton to Dushore is 45 miles, and it is expected a good grade can be found the whole distance.

"At Dushore, connections will be made with a railroad now partly built to Williamsport. The distance from Dushore to Williamsport is 63 miles; making the entire distance from Binghamton to Williamsport 108 miles."

Joel and L. M. Turrell, engineers, have, from maps and surveys, made the following comparison of the advantages of the Wyalusing and Choconut, and the Skinner's Eddy and Little Meadows routes:—

"From forks of the Wyalusing (the present terminus of the proposed Wyalusing Railway), to Binghamton by the Apolacon Creek, about where a railway would have to be built, it is ($33\frac{3}{4}$) thirty-three and three-quarters miles; and from the said forks to Binghamton by the Choconut Creek it is (30) thirty miles. The difference is $3\frac{3}{4}$ miles in favor of the Choconut route to the Wyalusing. These measurements both extend to one mile above the lower bridge at Binghamton.

"From the covered bridge in Binghamton to the State line, by the way of Apolacon Creek, the distance is 18 miles; by the Choconut Creek it is $12\frac{3}{4}$ miles; difference in favor of the Choconut route, $5\frac{1}{4}$ miles. The amount that would be saved to New York capital, by shortening the distance to the State line, would, it is thought, be sufficient to build the bridge at Binghamton."

One or two railroads are talked of in the eastern part of the county.

POST-OFFICES OF SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY, 1872.

The names in small caps are boroughs.

Townships.	Post-offices.	No. of Offices.
Apolacon,	Little Meadows,	1
Ararat,	Ararat,	1
Auburn,	Auburn Center, Auburn Four Corners, South Auburn, West Auburn,	4
Bridgewater,	East Bridgewater, MONTROSE (c. h.),	2
Brooklyn,	Brooklyn, Montrose Depot,	2
Choconut,	Choconut, Saint Joseph, FRIENDSVILLE,	3
Clifford,	Clifford, DUNDAFF,	2
Dimock,	Dimock, East Dimock, Elk Lake,	3
Forest Lake,	Forest Lake, Forest Lake Center, Birchardville,	3
Franklin,	Franklin Forks, Upsonville,	2
Gibson,	Gibson, Smiley, South Gibson,	3
Great Bend,	GREAT BEND, Great Bend Village.	2
Harford,	Harford, Oakley,	2
Harmony,	Harmony Center. Lanesboro,	2
Herrick,	Herrick Center, Uniondale,	2
Jackson,	Jackson, North Jackson,	2
Jessup,	Fairdale,	1
Lathrop,	Lathrop, Hopbottom,	2
Liberty,	Lawsville Center, Brookdale,	2

Townships.	Post-offices.	No. of Offices.
Lenox,	Lenoxville, West Lenox, Glenwood,	3
Middletown,	Middletown Centre, Jackson Valley,	2
New Milford,	NEW MILFORD,	1
Oakland,	SUSQUEHANNA DEPOT,	1
Rush,	Rush, East Rush, Rush Four Corners, Rushville,	4
Silver Lake,	Silver Lake, Richmond Hill, Brackney, Sheldon,	4
Springville,	Springville, Lynn, Niven,	3
Thomson,	Thomson,	1

BANKS.

SILVER LAKE BANK, at Montrose.—The books were opened for subscriptions June 6, 1814. The bank was fully organized with board of directors. Jan. 4, 1817. It began to discount April 10, 1817. Suspended Aug. 7, 1819, but resumed after a very short time, and continued in operation ten years longer, when the bill for its re-charter was lost.

NORTHERN BANK OF PENNSYLVANIA, at Dundaff.—Established probably early in 1825, and closed Jan. 1827.

BANK OF SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY, at Montrose.—Established in 1837; failed Nov. 1849.

A bank for discount existed in Great Bend, March, 1842.

Post, Cooper & Co. commenced business (banking) in Montrose, Nov. 1855, and were succeeded by Wm. H. Cooper & Co., May, 1859.

S. B. Chase has a Savings Bank at New Milford. There is one also at Great Bend.

CHAPTER XXXVIII.

CHANGES IN POLITICS.

WHILE included in Luzerne, the vote of this section was too light to be of importance. Nearly the whole territory of what is now Susquehanna County was comprised, in 1792, in the election district of Willingborough, which was 36 x 20 miles in extent. Elections were ordered to be held at the house of Horatio Strong. In 1804 it was divided into two districts; elections for Willingborough were held at the house of C. Longstreet (then at New Milford), and for Rush, at the house of Jabez Hyde. These were the first general elections here *on record*, so far as ascertained. The vote for Congressman was 324.

In 1807 the vote for Senator was a little over 200.

In 1808 the same territory included six districts: Willingborough, Rush, Nicholson, Clifford, Harford, and Bridgewater.

In the first political excitements shared by the people of this section, parties were divided into Federalists and Republicans or Democrats.

The Federalists claimed to be sole adherents of the policy of Washington, and charged the opposite party with imbibing

French principles. The Republicans or Democrats considered themselves the exclusive friends of liberty. The former had elected John Adams for president; the latter found their choice in Thomas Jefferson, who was in the minority, and therefore by the law of that time, the vice-president.

The two parties were also divided upon the subject of the funding of National and State debts, and upon the banking system; the "Feds" for a National Bank, Jefferson against it. The disputes upon these subjects may fairly be said to be the origin of that violent party-spirit which for thirty years arrayed one part of the American community against the other.

When a second war with England was imminent, the Democrats favored the war policy, but the Federalists opposed it. "Is the war justifiable?" was a fruitful theme of discussion here as elsewhere.

It was at this juncture, in the fall of 1812, that the first Democratic and Federal tickets in Susquehanna County were issued. The Democrats nominated for sheriff, Asa Dimock and W. C. Turrell; for commissioners, Isaac Brownson, Bartlet Hinds, Laban Capron; for coroner, Stephen Wilson and H. Leach, Jr. The Federalists nominated for sheriff, J. Carpenter and Edward Fuller; for commissioners, Myron Kasson, Caleb Richardson, and J. W. Raynsford; for coroner, Jos. Washburn and Rufus Lines. This was at a meeting at I. Post's, September 14th; John Tyler, chairman; I. A. Chapman, secretary.

In 1813 the "Friends of Peace" met at Howell's (Montrose), to consult; Thomas Parke, chairman; Edw. Fuller, secretary.

The election districts this year were seven: Bridgewater, elections held at I. Post's; "New District" of Bridgewater, at Thos. Parke's; Rush with Braintrim, Susquehanna County, at Jabez Hyde's; Harford and Nicholson, Susquehanna County, at H. Tiffany's; Clifford, at A. Gregory's; Choconut and Silver Lake, at Levi Smith's; and the rest of the county, comprised in the district of Willingborough, at Josiah Stewart's.

The Federalist party was broken up by its opposition to the war, but new opponents were obtained by a division of the Republican party. The new ticket recommended Hiester for governor, in opposition to the renomination of Governor Findlay, and was supported by Isaac Post, Asa Park, and Samuel Hodgdon as prime movers.

The 'Republican Reformer,' a campaign paper, was the exponent of their views. The Whig party, as it came to be called in Jackson's time, was now forming in opposition to the Republican—thenceforth known as the Democratic party. The Whigs were in favor of a protective tariff; the Democrats opposed it. A "Democratic Republican" was not considered a paradox.

In 1823, the vote for governor in Susquehanna County was

1202. Party spirit ran high. Each of the two political papers of the county claimed to be *the* Democratic one, though they were opposite in sentiment.

A. H. Read, who was first nominated for the State Legislature by Isaac Post, in opposition to the regular party, afterwards became the regular party man. Prior to 1825 the county vote fluctuated between different parties; but thereafter, for thirty years, it was Democratic.

In 1826, a new element entered into politics—opposition to Free Masonry—which was well developed here. But the Anti-Masonic party declined after about a dozen years, or about the time the Anti-Slavery political party was formed.

At the Presidential election in the fall of 1828, 1062 votes were cast in the eighteen districts of Susquehanna County, Jackson's majority being 368. Such men as William Jessup, Charles Avery, and William Foster, who, in later years, eminently opposed the Democratic party, then voted for Jackson. The former standing committee of the "Democratic Republican" party—Philander Stephens, William Jessup, and Simon Stevens—became prominent advocates of as many different parties, viz., Democratic, Whig, and Anti-Masonic. Still, voters claimed that the change was not in their own principles.

In 1832, a campaign paper, the "National Republican," was published at Montrose, in which appeared an appeal to voters in behalf of Henry Clay, whose peculiar views on national finance found adherents and originated the Whig party. The signers of the appeal were I. Post, S. S. Mulford, C. Cushman, M. S. Wilson, Leonard Searle, James C. Biddle, B. T. Case, A. Harts-horn, D. Bailey, P. Hinds, and D. Post. Some forty reasons were given why Jackson should not be elected. Similar reasons had been discussed at a National Republican meeting at Montrose a year earlier: John Mann, president; J. C. Biddle, C. F. A. Volz, vice-presidents; Jesse Lane and U. Burrowes, secretaries.

Joseph Ritner was the Anti-Masonic candidate for governor of Pennsylvania, then unsuccessful. In Montrose the Anti-Mason headquarters were at the house of B. Sayre.

The 'Register,' edited by C. L. Ward, was opposed to the President's removal of the deposits of the United States Bank to the local banks; while the 'Volunteer,' under E. H. Easterbrooks, favored the measure. George Fuller, approving of pacifying rather than exciting the public mind on the matter, had left the editorial chair. Exciting meetings were held both for and against a re-charter. William Jessup and others newly opposed to Jackson repelled the charge of contending in behalf of the United States Bank; it was their conception of the "kingly power" and "corruption" of Jackson's administration which excited their opposition.

In the fall of 1834, George Fuller resumed the editorship of the 'Independent Volunteer,' and thenceforward that paper was the exponent of views held by the majority of Democrats as opposed to Whigs. Such men as William Hartley, Asa Dimock, Jr., Davis Dimock, Jr., and A. H. Read, adopted the same platform.

The year 1835 witnessed the division of the Democratic party in *State* politics. George Wolf and Henry A. Muhlenberg represented the two factions.

Through the disputes of the Democrats, the Whigs and Anti-Masons succeeded in electing Joseph Ritner for governor.

Late in the fall, "the Democratic, Anti-Masonic, and Whig citizens of Susquehanna County, including all good Democrats (without respect to former distinctions), opposed to the election of Martin Van Buren," were invited to a meeting, which afterwards elected Major Isaac Post senatorial delegate, and George Walker county delegate, to represent Anti-Masons in convention.

At a "Democratic meeting," the same fall, the minority of the party (whose defection caused Ritner's election), "offer to make every sacrifice but those of honorable principles, to effect a reconciliation, and to heal the division now existing in the Democratic party." The majority "accept the proposition, stipulating only that, hereafter, the minority shall recognize the fundamental principle that a majority is to decide *for the entire party* in all cases of dispute and differences of opinion." This union resulted, in 1836, in the triumph of this party, and it continued in the ascendant here until 1856. The Anti-Masonic party disbanded "for the campaign" in the spring of 1836, and never revived.

In the meantime other principles were germinating, destined eventually to alter the points at issue among political parties. In Susquehanna County the history of anti-slavery, moral and political, is precisely that of the whole country—every measure having met a response and had its advocates here from beginning to end. The origin of the Anti-Slavery Society here appears to have been innocent enough of any intention to mix itself with either of the political parties. A stirring appeal had been made in the 'Register' of July 23, 1835, by Enoch Mack, of Brooklyn, relative to the formation of a county anti-slavery society. This was responded to by John Mann, of Choconut, who proposed a meeting to discuss the subject at Benjamin Sayre's hotel, 25th of September following. Nothing more than discussion appears to have been elicited then.

A call to form an anti-slavery society was issued March 17th, 1836, signed by sixty-one persons, and the number was afterwards increased to eighty-six.

This caused the publication of another "call" signed by 143

persons "opposed to the dangerous principles and projects of the Abolitionists."

April 18th, 1836, the "Susquehanna County Anti-Slavery and Free Discussion Society" was fully organized, and made a declaration of its sentiments. The meeting opened with Elder J. B. Worden in the chair. Rev. Joseph Barlow offered a prayer, and Rev. Timothy Stow and John Mann drafted a constitution, which was signed by upwards of 80 gentlemen of the county.

Addresses were made by Elder Worden and Wm. Jessup. The latter said that "the society, in clear and explicit terms, discard and disavow all interference in party politics," its members belonging to all the three existing parties. Rev. Adam Miller and B. R. Lyons were elected delegates to the American Anti-Slavery Society.

The Susquehanna County Society afterwards published an address to their fellow citizens, in which it was shown that they expected to put down slavery through the power of moral suasion. They requested discussion with their opponents.

The following is extracted from the county records under date of May, 1836:—

"Presentment of the Grand Jury, sitting and inquiring for the body of the county of Susquehanna: That the Anti-Slavery and Free-Discussion Society does materially disquiet, molest, and disturb the peace and common tranquillity of the good people in this part of the Commonwealth, being calculated to move and excite them to hatred and dislike of the Constitution of the United States, which has reserved to the States respectively the power of regulating slavery in their own confines," etc. etc.

Of this, it has been asserted that it was not drawn up either by the responsible officer of the Commonwealth, or by any of the grand jurors, and it was not signed in the jury-room.

The first annual meeting of the Anti-Slavery Society was held July 4, 1836. Its numbers as given in the report of the secretary, A. L. Post, July 4, 1837 were 275. Five years earlier there was but one society in the United States, and that had but 12 members; in 1836, there were 1076 societies.

In the summer of 1836, 'The Spectator and Freeman's Journal,' was established by A. L. Post, Esq. This paper, though Whig in politics, was essentially the organ of Anti-Slavery men. That it developed and educated the moral sentiment of the people here, will hardly be disputed. But, it was gradually drifting towards the advocacy of the use of the ballot-box, as a means for purging out the leaven of slavery from the councils of the nation. Mr. Post, at the "Harrison and Tyler" committee meeting in Montrose, Feb. 1840, announced his intention to enlist politically as well as morally under the banner of "Equal Rights and Universal Liberty." He could not support Harrison with his pro-

slavery record. He said: "I have become convinced that the abolition of slavery in this country is a subject paramount in importance to all others now before the American people." In other words, he was convinced of the truth of the statement of Judge Post (his father), that "Tippecanoe and Tyler too" meant nothing less than "Tippecanoe and Slavery too."

On this subject, O. N. Worden, at the time junior editor of the 'Spectator,' was not at one with Mr. Post, and the connection was dissolved, and the publication of the paper ceased the following summer.

At the annual meeting of the Anti-Slavery Society on the 4th of July, the same year, the orator of the day, R. B. Little, Esq., said:—

"Better than that slavery exist, the Union dissolve, our institutions crumble and political death descend upon us."

But all the members of this society were not prepared to indorse the sentiment, it being too far in advance of the times.

In Oct. 1840, a State electoral ticket was formed in the interests of anti-slavery, with James G. Birney, of New York, for president, and Thomas Earle, of Pennsylvania, for vice-president.

Of the thirty electors chosen, six were from Susquehanna County: Isaac Post, Benjamin R. Lyons, Samuel Warner, George Gamble, Abel Bolles, William Foster.

A circular headed "LIBERTY TICKET!" was issued and circulated under the supervision of a county committee, consisting of David Post, Wm. Foster, and R. B. Little.

"The truth is," stated the committee, "our principles are directly at war with those of both political parties. We cannot be true to our views of duty, and act with them. The sooner, therefore, our connection with them is dissolved, the sooner we allow our principles to develop themselves in a political form, the sooner will they triumph."

Of the men who now arose to meet the issue, it may be truly said, in the words of Jean Paul Richter:—

"Every brave life appears to us out of the past not so brave as it really was, for the forms of terror with which it fought are overthrown. Against the many-armed future, threatening from its clouds, only the great soul has courage; every one can be courageous towards the spent out, dis clothed past."

The votes polled that fall for the Liberty Ticket, were 343—precisely the Harrison majority in the State. The number of votes in Susquehanna County, for the same, in the election of governor, in 1841, was 36, the vote of the State being 793.

A campaign paper, 'Freedom's Annual,' was published at Montrose in 1841, '2, '3, and in 1852. It supported a county Liberty Ticket.

A number of societies in the township were formed auxiliary to the county Anti-Slavery Society, and among them, were those

of Clifford, New Milford, Liberty, and Harford. The last named had 200 members in 1844.

J. G. Birney was again the Liberty candidate for president, in 1844; with Thomas Morris, of Ohio, for vice-president. In 1848, the platform of direct abolition was virtually exchanged for that of non-extension of slavery.

A remnant of the Liberty party were dissatisfied, and, in 1852, the "Free Democracy," as opposed to the Democratic and Whig National conventions, nominated John P. Hale and Geo. W. Julian for president and vice-president.

In 1856, the opponents of slavery were merged into the Republican party.

"The abolition spirit, which really had its headquarters in Montrose for all N. E. Pennsylvania, laid the foundation for the Republican party so far as this State is concerned. The Wilmot and Grow Congressional District made them, and not they the district; it educated them and raised them to office, which both parties acknowledge they honored."

The following is taken from the 'Montrose Republican' of November, 1868:—

"Politically, the northern central range of counties were once a Democratic stronghold. They sometimes saved the State of Pennsylvania for that party. They were most inflexible and rigid partisans.

"To see how vast the change in what we call 'Wilmot's District,' we give the following list of Republican majorities:—

	Oct. 1868.	Nov. 1868.
Bradford	3749	4230
Tioga	3359	3598
Susquehanna	1305	1490
Potter	793	1010
	<hr/> 9206	<hr/> 10,328

"They used to be 3000 or 4000 the other way.

"Of the recent progress of the county and of the two great parties, let the election returns speak:—

	Montrose.	Susq. Co.		Montrose.	Susq. Co.
1838. Whig,	76	1264	1868. Rep.,	276	4882
" Dem.,	25	1530	" Dem.,	65	3392
	<hr/> 101	<hr/> 2794		<hr/> 341	<hr/> 8274
Totals,				101	2794
				<hr/> 240	<hr/> 5480

Increase in thirty years,

"It will be seen, that the voters have twice doubled in number, in one generation—an increase of 200 per cent.

"Nearly all the old Democratic editors in Susquehanna County, we believe, have become Republicans—Hon. George Fuller, Hon. C. F. Read, Ariel Carr, S. T. Scott, O. G. Hempstead, S. B. Chase."

VOTES OF SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY.

1836.	Whole vote for President	.	.	.	.	2001
1840.	" " "	.	.	.	.	3582
1844.	" " "	.	.	.	.	4592
1848.	" " "	.	.	.	.	4717
1852.	" " "	.	.	.	.	5296
1856.	" " "	.	.	.	.	6460
1860.	" " "	.	.	.	.	7026
1864.	" " "	.	.	.	.	7162
1868.	" " "	.	.	.	.	8274
1869.	" " Governor	.	.	.	.	7046
1872.	" " "	.	.	.	.	7736

Democratic Majorities.

1836.	Van Buren over Harrison	.	.	.	.	289
1840.	Van Buren over Harrison	.	.	.	.	460
1841.	D. R. Porter over Banks	.	.	.	.	810
1844.	Polk over Clay	.	.	.	.	895
1848.	Cass and Van Buren over Taylor	.	.	.	.	1008
1852.	Morrison over Donegan	.	.	.	.	1031
1851.	Bigler over Johnston	.	.	.	.	682
1852.	Pierce over Scott	.	.	.	.	1011
1853.	Forsyth over Pownall	.	.	.	.	1233

Republican Majorities.

1854.	Nicholson over Plumer	.	.	.	.	585
1855.	Pollock over Bigler	.	.	.	.	696
1856.	Fremont over Buchanan	.	.	.	.	1313
1857.	Wilmot over W. F. Packer	.	.	.	.	805
1858.	Read over W. A. Porter	.	.	.	.	1167
1859.	Cochrane over Wright	.	.	.	.	716
1860.	Lincoln over all	.	.	.	.	1914
1862.	Cochran over Slenker	.	.	.	.	1188
1863.	Curtin over Woodward	.	.	.	.	1202
1864.	Lincoln over McClellan	.	.	.	.	1244
1865.	Hartranft over Davis	.	.	.	.	1293
1866.	Geary over Clymer	.	.	.	.	1348
1868.	Hartranft over Boyle	.	.	.	.	1305
1868.	Grant over Seymour	.	.	.	.	1490
1869.	Geary over Asa Packer	.	.	.	.	1082
1869.	Williams over Pershing	.	.	.	.	1208
1872.	Hartranft over Buckalew	.	.	.	.	933
1872.	Grant over Greeley	.	.	.	.	1632

CHAPTER XXXIX.

SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES.

THOUGH much has been said of schools in the annals of the different townships, some points were reserved for a more general chapter as bearing upon the interests of the whole county.

Prior to the awakening of the State to the importance of common schools, it had made appropriations to encourage the establishment of public classical schools. The first of the kind in our county was styled:—

THE SUSQUEHANNA ACADEMY.

In and by an act of assembly passed the 19th of March, 1816, establishing an academy in the town of Montrose, the following gentlemen were appointed trustees:—

Fig. 25.



OLD ACADEMY SEAL.

William Thomson, Davis Dimock, Isaac Post, Jabez Hyde, Jr., Jonah Brewster, Austin Howell, Isaac Brownson, Daniel Ross, Wright Chamberlin, H. Tiffany, Jr., Robert H. Rose, David Post, Charles Fraser, and Putnam Catlin.

These trustees comprised the principal officers of the county, with the president and cashier of the Silver Lake Bank. A meeting was appointed for the 3d of September following. In the mean time the legislature granted \$2000 towards the erection of an academy at Montrose.

The care of its erection was given to Isaac Post, and it was completed in 1818. The offices of judges and commissioners in the board of trustees were then filled by J. W. Raynsford, Benjamin Sayre, S. S. Mulford, I. P. Foster, Samuel Warner, Justin Clark, Bela Jones, and B. T. Case, the last named being then secretary, and for several years afterwards.

There was no church edifice in the place, and the second floor of the building was used as a place of religious worship every Sabbath. The academy at that time occupied the brow of the hill above the new jail, the hill then being much steeper than at present, and containing a valuable quarry but little excavated.

The grandparents of our time relate with glee, their feats in coasting down this hill with an upturned bench for a sled, which many a merry boy and girl could enjoy together. About 1828, the building was moved down close to the sidewalk, between the present locations of the new academy and the old court-house, where it remained for twenty-two years. (A correct representation of it appears in the picture of the Montrose Green.)

Among the teachers engaged in this institution, the following are remembered:—

1818. William Jessup (advertised by the trustees as teacher of mathematics and “the learned languages”) and Bela Jones; J. W. Raynsford, part of the year.

1819. Samuel Barnard, and daughter Catharine (since Mrs. Morgan).

1820. Ralph H. Read, Walker Woodhouse.

1821–24. Albert Bingham, David Benedict, P. Wright.

1825–28. Eli Meeker, Sloane Hamilton, Franklin Lusk, Benjamin and D. Dimock, Jr.

1829–31. Seth T. Rogers, P. Richardson, S. S. Stebbins, Rufus B. Gregory.

1833–36. B. S. Bentley.

1837–42. L. H. Woodruff, (?) H. S. Fairchild, ——— Payne, Rev. S. Manning.

1843–44. Z. L. Beebe and Lafayette G. Dimock.

1845–47. C. C. Halsey.

1848–49. A. J. Buel.

Most of the above were collegiate graduates.

Among the lady teachers after Miss Barnard, and prior to 1830, were Misses Ann Harris (afterwards Mrs. S. Hodgdon), Maria Jones, Abigail Sayre (Mrs. James Catlin), Mary Ann Raynsford (Mrs. D. D. Warner). (Of other schools, Miss Harriet Conner taught early over Raynor's store. A French and English select school was taught in 1828, by Mrs. B. Streeter. Courses of lessons in English grammar, and also lessons on the German flute had been given by different gentlemen; in the mean time, Wentworth Roberts taught in the Bowman House.)

In 1832, the academy was thoroughly repaired, and an orrery and other apparatus procured. The same season an infant school was taught by Mrs. Amanda B. Catlin. She had the first piano in the place (in 1819), and taught music in 1832. Subsequently, and prior to 1837, Misses Jane A. Brand (Mrs. Dr. Justin A. Smith, of Chicago, recently deceased), Lucretia Loomis, A. L. Fraser, Nancy and Caroline Bowman, Caroline C. Woodhouse, and possibly others, were teachers in the lower rooms of the academy, while the classical department occupied the one long room on the second floor.

Early in 1839, Miss Elizabeth Wood was the first teacher of

the female seminary—in the same building. It was incorporated through the exertions of Col. Asa Dimock. This institution, it was intended, should be entitled to \$300 annually for ten years from the State. Its first trustees were A. H. Read, J. C. Biddle, D. Dimock, Jr., Geo. Fuller, and Daniel Searle.

In 1840–41, the preceptress was Mrs. Elizabeth H. Stone (afterwards Mrs. Niven). A piano was purchased, and Miss Theodosia A. Catlin taught a large class in music, though there were then but three pianos in the place.

In 1841–2, Miss Mariana A. Read, of Homer, New York, was preceptress here.

For three or four years following, select schools by former teachers appear to have occupied the lower rooms.

In 1847, Miss F. L. Willard began teaching in the academy, but afterwards kept a boarding-school for young ladies (assisted by Mrs. Theo. Smith, and F. C. Blackman), and a day school, which included young lads, in the building now the residence of George C. Hill; later in the old Post-house, Miss Totten, assistant. Pupils attended from remote parts of the county, and from other counties.

A new academy had been projected in 1846, but it was not completed until the summer of 1850; the building, 50 by 60 feet, is now occupied by the graded school. Its cost was \$4200.

The first board of trustees consisted of William Jessup, president; R. J. Niven, secretary; M. S. Wilson, treasurer; Rev. H. A. Riley, F. B. Streeter, B. S. Bentley, William L. Post, George Fuller, Alfred Baldwin, William J. Mulford, Leonard Searle, D. D. Warner, and Henry Drinker. They made valuable contributions for the foundation of a library and cabinet of natural curiosities, which it is to be regretted have not been well preserved.

The first instructors were Lemuel H. Waters, A.M., principal; Miss Mary J. Crawford, preceptress; William H. Jessup, and Miss A. A. P. Rogers, assistant teachers; Miss Caroline Bowman, superintendent of primary department; Emily C. Blackman, teacher of music; Gustave H. Walther, teacher of German. Succeeding principals were Rev. Isaac Gray, Rufus C. Crampton, William H. Richmond, John L. Mills, and ——— Hartshorne, collegiates. After Miss Crawford, the lady teachers were Misses Bessie Hunting, Caroline Bush, Frances J. Woolworth, and ——— Brown.

A normal school was established in the fall of 1857, J. F. Stoddard, principal. He was succeeded by H. Broadhead, B.A., and S. S. Hartwell, B.A.

In the fall of 1863, under the care of F. D. Hunt, it assumed distinctively the features of a graded school, which it still retains. Rev. J. R. Stone had charge of the classical department; Misses C.

M. Dixon, M. M. Chamberlin, Jessie Bissell, and A. Perry and Mrs. A. M. Richards, were among the earliest teachers of other departments. Succeeding principals have been W. W. Watson, J. C. Hammond, E. B. Hawley, J. G. Cope, Wm. C. Tilden, and A. H. Berlin.

FRANKLIN ACADEMY, OR HARFORD UNIVERSITY.

In the absence of promised information respecting this institution, only meager items can be given. It was the outgrowth of a select classical school at Harford, begun by Rev. Lyman Richardson, in 1817. Ten years later, his brother Preston had charge of it for a time. In 1830 it became "Franklin Academy," of which, in 1837, Willard, son of Rev. L. Richardson, was the principal; F. B. Streeter, Mrs. L. T. Richardson, and Misses Kingsley, and H. A. Tyler, assistants.

In Nov. 1839, the corner-stone of the new building was laid. Nathan Leighton taught in the spring of 1840, but in the fall following, Rev. L. Richardson resumed the charge, assisted by his daughter, N. Maria, Henry Abel, Miss M. Gardner, and Mrs. L. T. Richardson. From 1848-55, Rev. Willard Richardson was principal. In 1856 his father again took the post, but not long after resigned in favor of Rev. Edward Allen.

This institution, latterly styled a university, had been emphatically a normal school from the beginning, and upon the establishment of the school at Montrose, under the care of Prof. Stoddard, its labors appear to have been permanently suspended, after a duration of half a century.

A very large number of its graduates became professional teachers; many, ministers of the gospel, and not a few, prominent public men. Among them may be mentioned Revs. Moses Tyler and Washington Thatcher; Rev. Wm. S. Tyler, D.D., LL.D., of Amherst College; Rev. W. H. Tyler, formerly of Pittsfield Institute, Mass.; Prof. John Wadsworth Tyler, a graduate of Union College, and former principal of Cazenovia Seminary, N. Y., who died in 1833; Prof. E. G. Tyler, now of Canandaigua, N. Y.; John Guernsey, State Senator; John D. Stiles, Congressman for Carbon County; F. B. Streeter, President Judge, and Paul D. Morrow, Law Judge of this Judicial District; Hon. Luther Kidder, deceased; Henry W. Williams, President Judge of the 4th Judicial District; Stewart Pierce, State Representative, and Historian of Luzerne County; Jesse Barrett, Prof. of Mathematics in the University of Missouri; G. A. Grow, former Speaker of House of Representatives, U. S.; C. R. Buckalew, U. S. Senator, and late candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania; and Cyrus C. Carpenter, present Governor of Iowa.

The annual exhibitions of Franklin Academy brought to-

gether several thousand interested spectators. The benefits of the institution were within the reach of those of humble means, owing to the accommodations for students to board themselves; and the best yeomanry of the county were here constantly represented.

Academies established at Dundaff, Gibson, Great Bend, Friendsville, and Dimock, had a more local influence than the foregoing; but, in all cases, a beneficial one, and too strongly marked to be unnoted in the history of the county. The boarding schools at Mannington, at Friendsville, by Miss Richards, and at Newtonville, by S. A. Newton, should also be included in this connection. Private classical schools have been occasionally established in different localities, but were without permanence.

COMMON SCHOOLS.

The early common schools were not free; the children of the indigent were taught at the expense of the town in which they resided. In January, 1830, Hon. A. H. Read offered in the House of Representatives three memorials from Susquehanna County praying for a general system of education.

An act to establish a general system of education by common schools was approved by Gov. Wolf, April 1st, 1834, to which an act supplementary was passed a fortnight later. But these were still far from being satisfactory to the public. In February, 1835, Mr. Read reported a bill, changing the features and simplifying the details of the school law of the previous session, which was thought to remove all fair objections to a system of general education. In July, 1836, the act relative to common schools was published in the Susquehanna 'Register,' and received some adverse comments; some persons asserting that the majority of the people had no right to levy a tax upon the whole people for the purposes of universal education. The common school convention, early in 1839, recommended uniform school books to be adopted the ensuing fall; and this was a new bone of contention. Hon. William Jessup exerted himself to show the propriety of the measure, and with success. Susquehanna County was, it is believed, the *first* to accept the entire provisions of the school law.

The board of directors of the first free school of Susquehanna County consisted, September, 1834, of the following gentlemen: Wm. Jessup, J. C. Biddle, J. W. Raynsford, Asa Dimock, Hiram Finch, George Fuller, and Jerre Lyons, treasurer. At a later period a meeting of the taxables of Montrose was held to discuss the propriety of levying a tax of \$500 for the support of a free school in the place. If the whole of that sum was not secured, enough encouragement was given to rent a room in the Academy

and install Wm. J. Turrell as teacher, at a salary of \$22 per month. In the fall of 1836 another room was secured, and Miss N. Bowman had charge of the female department at \$3 per week. It was then proposed to add rooms to the Academy for the use of the free school, but upon the report of Messrs. Geo. Fuller and H. Drinker, committee to ascertain the expense of putting up a building separate from it, it was decided to act upon their suggestions. The new house, 34 x 22 feet, was erected July-December, 1837, between the Academy and the old "Fire Proof," at an expense of \$480, without desks and seats. The building was moved, in the summer of 1849, above the Universalist church, and, about fifteen years later, to the lower end of the borough, where it was converted into a dwelling house. It was a power for good in the community, which it is pleasant to recognize.

The colored children were taught separately after November, 1857, and Miss H. N. Austin was their first teacher.

In the fall of 1840 the examination of persons wishing to be teachers was made necessary by law.

[The following items respecting the Teachers' Association is taken from a more detailed account kindly furnished by A. B. Kent, of New Milford.]

"The year 1854 marks a new era in the educational affairs of this county. Previous to this there had been a sort of mechanical compliance with the terms of the Pennsylvania school law; but a clear and willing comprehension of a system of education suited to and sufficient for *all* the children of the county, based for its support on a fair percentage of all the property in the county, in addition to that received from State appropriation, had as yet found a place in the heart and hand of but few of the people. Some of the teachers began to have an earnest desire for improvement, and C. W. Deans and a few others concluded to make an effort. A call was issued, and on the 31st of December, 1853, a meeting was held in the court-house in Montrose, which organized the SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION, with S. T. Scott, president; J. Jameson, vice-president, and B. F. Tewksbury, secretary. Meetings were held during the winter and following spring.

"The directors of the county elected a county superintendent of common schools for the first time, June 5th, 1854; Willard Richardson being elected, and his salary fixed at \$350. It was supposed the duties of the office would take but part of one's time; there was considerable opposition to the idea of a county superintendent among the people; and from the additional appropriation by the legislature to the school fund, only that sum could be taken, and leave for the direct support of the schools about the same amount as before. The county superintendent and Teachers' Association worked in unison. Meetings were held in the fall of 1854, and it was decided to hold a Teachers' Institute at Harford University, commencing on Monday the 13th of November following, and continuing through the week.

"This being an entirely new movement, involved some risk to its promoters, as competent instructors from abroad were to be secured, and it was not known whether the teachers of the county would attend in sufficient numbers to make it a success. But when the time arrived about one hundred teachers, or those who intended to be such, were present; and probably no greater interest on the part of all has been manifested at any other educational meeting ever held in this county. The instructors were Dr. S. A.

Richardson of New Hampshire, and Prof. J. F. Stoddard, afterwards known here as a prominent educator as well as mathematical author. From this meeting we date the permanent introduction of mental arithmetic as a study in our schools, and many of the features which mark the improvements of the present day over the system of twenty years ago. The Teachers' Association held meetings during the winter and spring, and, in October following, another Teachers' Institute, at New Milford, taught by Prof. Chas. W. Sanders of New York and others. During 1857-58 the meetings of the association (of which A. B. Kent was then president) were sometimes continued two days under instructors from abroad.

"After this the county superintendent, B. F. Tewksbury, assumed direction of the educational meetings of the county, sometimes calling instructors from abroad, and sometimes relying upon home talent. In 1861, A. N. Bullard being county superintendent, the Teachers' Association was revived and continued during his term of office; since which the county superintendent has at his discretion called meetings from one day to one week in duration, with instructors from this and other counties."

The present superintendent receives a salary of \$1200.

B. F. Tewksbury, county superintendent for 1858, then reported as follows:—

"Our teachers are improving in their ideas of propriety and taste, with reference to pupils and school-houses. Many decorate their school-rooms with flowers in summer, and with evergreens in winter. Some have induced the proprietors to erect a fence inclosing a tidy little yard in which they have arranged flower-beds, and have also planted with vines and shade trees. In some cases this has been done in admirable taste, enlisting the attention and voluntary labors of the pupils during their spare hours, for weeks together."

Tabular Statement, for the School Year ending June 6, 1870.

W. C. TILDEN, Sup't for Susquehanna County.

DISTRICTS.	SCHOOLS.		TEACHERS.				SCHOLARS.			
	Whole Number.	Average No. of mos. taught.	No. of Males.	No. of Females.	Average Salaries of Males per month.	Average Salaries of Females per month.	No. of Males.	No. of Females.	Average No. attending Sch'l.	Cost per month.
1. Apolacon. . . .	5	6.	2	7	\$39 00	\$29 00	112	108	189	.68
2. Ararat	4	5.	2	5	37 00	25 00	79	69	104	.93
3. Auburn	14	5.56	2	12	33 00	32 00	241	181	280	1.00
4. Bridgewater. . .	15 $\frac{1}{4}$	5.50	2	14	39 09	29 22	224	178	274	.76
5. Brooklyn . . .	10	7.	6	14	34 00	23 50	221	158	296	.78
6. Chapman (Ind.) .	2	5.75	. .	4	. . .	26 17	28	30	40	1.02
7. Chocanut	5	4.80	1	6	35 00	30 00	130	100	154	.87
8. Clifford	11	6.	6	15	28 00	25 00	190	151	204	.89
9. Dimock	11	5.72	5	16	32 00	27 00	150	90	193	.85
10. Dundaff	1	7.	. .	. .	. . .	32 00	20	34	40	1.38
11. Forest Lake . . .	8	5.61	3	2	34 66	26 92	131	104	179	.61
12. Franklin	9	6.	2	9	28 00	26 00	120	108	140	.76
13. Friendsville . .	1	7.	. .	2	. . .	30 00	53	35	50	.45
14. Gibson	11	5.72	4	18	44 50	28 25	162	130	191	1.24
15. Great Bend bor'	4	4.	2	2	70 00	37 00	140	106	190	1.03
16. Great Bend tow'p.	9	6.	3	11	45 00	24 77	175	146	182	1.03
17. Harford	12	5.50	2	17	53 37	30 00	237	209	225	1.06
18. Harmony	7	6.61	. .	11	. . .	21 00	144	149	268	.60
19. Herrick	7	6.	. .	11	. . .	34 00	126	109	174	1.08
20. Jackson	10	6.	2	13	34 90	28 00	187	141	218	.70
21. Jessup	7	6.67	1	13	32 00	25 00	116	95	159	.91
22. Lathrop	8	7.	3	12	39 00	29 00	150	119	219	.93
23. Lenox	14	5.84	4	18	32 00	31 50	293	217	402	1.04
24. Liberty	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	6.	. .	10	. . .	27 00	157	106	149	1.15
25. Little Meadows bor'	1	6.	1	1	35 00	20 83	25	19	29	.74
26. Middleton	8	5.50	2	13	38 00	29 25	141	109	191	1.10
27. Montrose	6	6.33	2	4	60 50	39 66	164	175	256	1.11
28. New Milford bor'	3	4.60	1	2	75 00	30 00	89	66	107	1.08
29. New Milford tow'p.	14	5.	3	19	41 00	30 00	257	206	342	.91
30. Oakland ¹	5	5.	2	5	35 00	26 00	65	53	105	1.90
31. Oakland (Ind.) ¹ .	1	6.	. .	1	. . .	34 00	40	37	68	.65
32. Rush	14	6.	2	11	26 00	24 15	227	180	286	.75
33. Silver Lake . . .	10	5.80	2	6	32 00	28 50	178	119	214	1.95
34. Springville . . .	10	6.	1	16	34 00	28 71	202	178	278	.84
35. Susquehanna Dep't	7	10.	1	6	133 33	35 00	208	205	320	.83
36. Thompson	6	5.50	2	7	32 00	24 00	108	97	179	1.08
	272 $\frac{3}{4}$	5.89	71	345	\$42 49	\$28 54	5294	4322	6898	.93

The following is from the report of Superintendent Tilden, in the fall of 1872:—

“Several new houses have been built during the year; nearly all of these are comfortable and substantial, yet very few can be found in the county

¹ Taken from last year's report.

answering the description of the school department as first-class houses, —neither are grounds found of suitable size and properly improved in but few instances. A great negligence exists in this respect, for the majority have not a shade or ornament, and both sun and storm beat upon house and children, at their play, without hinderance."

The Harford University was purchased by Prof. Charles W. Deans, a native of Bridgewater township, and opened by him as a State institution for the education and maintenance of soldiers' orphans, on the 7th day of November, 1865.

Hon. Thomas H. Burrowes, superintendent of soldiers' orphans, executed the contract on behalf of the State, in pursuance of a law passed by the legislature at the suggestion of Gov. Curtin.

The institution is conducted under the regulations laid down by the department of soldiers' orphans at Harrisburg.

The number of orders of admission issued from date of organization to June, 1872, have been 410. The number of pupils admitted per order and transfer 366. The number discharged per order, and on arrival at the age of sixteen, 180. The number of deaths have been 11. The number of pupils at present, June 1, 1872, is 170.

The children admitted represent the counties of Wayne, Pike, Monroe, Luzerne, Columbia, Montour, Schuylkill, Center, Tioga, Bradford, Wyoming, Susquehanna, and Sullivan.

In March, 1868, Mr. Deans was called to take charge of a similar institution in Chester County, Pa., since which time Prof. Henry S. Sweet, a native of Harford, has been in charge. Mrs. A. L. Sterling, of Wyoming County, and Mrs. Geo. W. Crandall, of Franklin, Susquehanna County, have been efficient matrons of the school; and Misses Helen M. Williams, E. M. Orvis, — Gould, E. Gamble, and Mrs. Redfield, teachers; Charles S. Halstead, farmer and steward.

Revs. Edw. Allen and Adam Miller, in christian kindness, have held regular services here for the moral and religious training of the orphans.

Each county has a committee of supervision appointed by the State, whose chairman must approve all applications for admission sent into the department from the county. Hon. L. F. Fitch is chairman for Susquehanna County.

A few notes of one who attended the examination of the soldiers' orphan school at Harford, in 1870, may be of interest:—

"There are in the school 163 children supported by the State—110 boys and 53 girls—and six supported by their friends. The scholars remain till they are sixteen years of age, when some of them are taken charge of by their friends, and places are provided for others. H. S. Sweet is principal of the school, with four teachers. There are 21 persons employed about the institution—principal, steward, matron, and assistant teachers, two farmers, teamster, baker, shoemaker, two in laundry, sewing superintendent, hospital

matron, etc. There are 300 acres in the farm, and 50 cows in the dairy. The farm is expected to produce 1000 bushels of oats, 5000 bushels of potatoes, and other crops in proportion. The boys are divided into three 'reliefs,' the girls into five; each 'relief' works two hours one week on some special work, then changes; thus all learn the different kinds of work taught. There are regular hours for work, drill, study, recreation, and sleep. All look cheerful and healthy. There is very little sickness—not one in the hospital on an average. The children are dressed in uniform—the boys in dark blue jackets, light blue pants, and military caps—the girls in check gingham. The exercises in the school were very creditable. Those in arithmetic, reading, declamation, etc., would do credit to schools of higher pretensions. In mental arithmetic they could hardly be excelled.]

"Many, having reached the age of sixteen, are of course discharged, and few new ones are added, so that the orphans' schools will soon be a thing of the past.

"The former buildings of the Franklin Academy, or Harford University, have been supplemented by several others, embracing a chapel in the rear of the main building, a girls' dormitory, a dining hall, and other suitable structures. The grounds have been sodded, and ornamented with flowers, evincing care and culture most commendable."

The following is a part of an address by one of the pupils to his fellow-students on his fifteenth birthday:—

"It is sometimes said that this institution is 'a great, commendable *charity*!' I hold that '*charity*,' as applied to this school, is a shocking misnomer. I protest that we are not charity scholars. We have *paid in advance*, the highest price for our board, clothing, and tuition, that was ever paid for the same benefits on the continent of America. Each and every pupil of this school has given a father's life for the defence of our national integrity, union, and liberty. And we, enjoying the fostering care of the State, owe it to ourselves, to the memory of our fathers, to the community, to the State and Nation, and to posterity, to make all efforts possible here, to prepare ourselves for the duties that the future may thrust upon us."

SABBATH-SCHOOLS.

It is said that, prior to 1815, Sabbath-schools had been designed for the poorer classes, and were mainly of a secular character; instituted for the benefit of those who had not the privilege of a day-school during the week. But the school organized in the Newark Academy (by Rev. Burr Baldwin) in 1815, was on a different basis, including all classes, the rich as well as the poor, the colored as well as the white children, the instruction to be of a religious character, and the text-book to be the Bible.

1815-16. A number of schools on the new plan were established in New York, New Jersey, one in Philadelphia, and one in Boston.

1816. The Sunday-school Union of New York. Later, question books issued.

1824. The Philadelphia school was remodelled, and the American Sunday-school Union formed, and question books and libraries were improved.

In Montrose.—So far as is known to the compiler, the first Sabbath-school in the county was formed about 1818, by Mrs.

Hannah Fuller and Miss Hannah Cochran, at the house of the former. It was in the building (now burned) long used as a hotel, next below S. F. Keeler's old stand. The ladies induced J. W. Raynsford, Esq., to join them and open the school with prayer. Many persons thought the school a desecration of the Sabbath. Elder Davis Dimock was of this number at first, and expostulated with one of his church members for sending her son to the school. He was afterwards one of the warmest advocates of Sabbath-schools.

May 4th, 1823, at the Academy, Sabbath-school "commenced for the season." Jerre Lyons taught the first or most advanced class. There were sixteen teachers and seventy-seven scholars. Closed October 5.

June 21, 1824, Monday, a Sunday school union was formed at the court-house. A constitution, having for its basis the establishment and permanency of Sunday-schools in Montrose and vicinity, was adopted. The officers of the Union were then elected: Rev. D. Dimock, president; Rev. B. Baldwin and Dr. W. R. Griffith, vice-presidents; J. W. Raynsford, Esq., secretary; S. Hodgdon, treasurer. Managers: N. Scott, J. W. Raynsford, D. Post, Wm. Jessup, Samuel Backus, O. Deans, and Edmund West. It was resolved to open ten schools in Bridgewater.

1825. Sunday-school concert at Rev. B. Baldwin's.

1826, June 11th. Sunday-school held in Presbyterian church the first time, at 9 A. M.

June 12, Monday evening, Sunday-school monthly concert at the court-house. I. P. Foster, superintendent.

1827. Presbyterian Sunday-school numbered 124 scholars. October 3d, Sunday-school scholars of different denominations met at the house of J. W. Raynsford, and went in procession to the union meeting of the Susquehanna County Bible, Domestic Missionary, and Tract Societies, and the Sunday-school Union. This is remembered as a marked occasion.

1828. Sunday-school monthly concerts in the office of J. W. Raynsford, Esq.

1829, April. Sunday-school reorganized. William Jessup, superintendent. This office he held many years. His successors have been B. Sayre, B. S. Bentley, and Wm. H. Jessup. Each denomination in the borough (except the Universalists) has a flourishing Sabbath-school. The organization of other Sunday-schools is given in the township annals.

June 8th, 1870. A. C. Purple, corresponding secretary of the Susquehanna County Sunday-school Association, furnished a table of statistics, from which the number of scholars in the different townships is here given:—

"Ararat, 63; Auburn, 241; Bridgewater, 104; Brooklyn, 167; Dimock, 23; Franklin, 163; Forest Lake, 199; Great Bend borough and township,

462; Gibson, 49; Harford, 271; Herrick, 103; Harford, 68; Jessup, 35; Jackson, 306; Liberty, 111; Lathrop, 76; Lenox, 233; Little Meadows, 73; Montrose, 400; New Milford, 158; New Milford township, 127; Oakland, 69; Rush, 133; Susquehanna Depot, 460; Springville, 148; Thomson, 95—4337 in 78 schools.

"Two schools reporting later, made 80 schools reporting to the Association, in which are engaged over 700 teachers, and about 4400 scholars, with an average attendance of about 3600, and nearly 20,000 volumes in their libraries. There are probably 25 schools that did not report."

Although sixteen districts had decreased in numbers, and four remained stationary, still the whole increase over the report of 1869 was more than 500.

CHURCHES.

CONGREGATIONAL AND PRESBYTERIAN.

Though quite extended mention of churches has been already made, it is believed the following summary is desirable.

The first church in the county was organized at Great Bend, in 1791, and reorganized in 1802. It is now Presbyterian, though like all the first ten of this order, it was Congregational when organized. The Congregational church of Harford was organized in 1800; First Bridgewater (now Montrose), and Second do. (now Brooklyn), in 1810; Rush (in what is now Forest Lake), in 1811; Lawsville and New Milford, Ararat, Gibson and Mt. Pleasant (now Uniondale), in 1813; Silver Lake and Chocconut in 1816; Gibson, Union Hill, in 1818.

The Luzerne Association, to which most of these churches belonged, was changed to the Susquehanna Presbytery, in 1817. The following churches have since been formed: Springville, Dundaff, Clifford (Welsh), Jackson, Friendsville, Silver Lake (1847), Liberty, Rushville, Susquehanna Depot, New Milford (formerly with Lawsville), Dimock, Auburn, and Lenoxville. The last two are disbanded, as also two or three of the earlier churches, leaving eighteen, at least, still efficient; four of them having a total membership of about one thousand. [A statistical table was designed to be given, but so few churches made full reports, it was abandoned.]

METHODIST EPISCOPAL.

The first class in the county was formed in Brooklyn, about 1804. There are thirty church edifices: at Little Meadows, Choconut, Brackney, Liberty, Franklin, Great Bend, Susquehanna, Lanesboro, East Rush, Fairdale, Montrose, New Milford, Jackson Corners, North Jackson, Thomson, Ararat, Brooklyn, Harford, Gibson, South Gibson, Herrick, West Auburn, South Auburn, Jersey Hill, Springville, Lymanville, Hopbottom, Lakeside (Lathrop), Lenoxville, and Dundaff.

These are comprised in seventeen charges, with a church membership of about 2700, including "probationers;" the Mon-

trose church alone had more than two-thirds of its membership of the latter, in the spring of 1872. There is an independent society at New Milford.

The two African Methodist churches of Montrose have a different connection.

SUMMARY HISTORY OF REGULAR BAPTIST CHURCHES IN SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY.

[By O. N. Worden, Esq., with the request that blanks may be filled and errors noted.]

CHURCHES.	When recognized.	No. when formed.	Place of worship.	Present number.
Bridgewater (Montrose)	9 Apr. 1808	6	M. H. dedicated Dec'r, 1829	239
Middletown (first called Rush)	29 Feb. 1812	10	" " " 1837	88
Harford (southeast part of twp.) . . .	12 Sept. 1812	4	" " " 22 Dec. 1833	22
Choconut ¹	29 Jan. 1814	9	" " " 1828	
Auburn	2 Aug. 1817	17	" " (near) 1855	56
First Clifford ("Corners")	20 Oct. 1817	34	" " " 1830?	92
Great Bend ²	27 Oct. 1825	12	" " " August, 1832	25
Gibson and Jackson (Jackson Corners)	24 Dec. 1825	12	" " " Dec'r, 1842	136
New Milford (south part of twp.) . .	22 Feb. 1827	12	" " " 15 Jan. 1851	112
Lenox (West)	15 Dec. 1830	13	" " " Febr'y, 1864	69
Rush	18 June, 1831	17	" " " 1867	73
Herrick ³	11 June, 1834	10	In school-houses, etc.	
Dimock (Corners)	June, 1834	25	M. H. bought 1851	61
Liberty	23 Dec. 1837	21	" " " 1839-40, 1867-8	
Montrose and Bridgewater ⁴	1839	46	School-house & Court-house.	
Second Clifford ⁵	8 Dec. 1841	10	In school-houses, etc.	
Forest Lake	4 May, 1842	16	M. H. dedicated in 18—	27
South Auburn	1848	23?	" " " 1859	35
Union ("The City")	25 July, 1851	17	" " " 3 May, 1855	56
East Gibson ⁶	30 Apr. 1856	18	In school-houses, etc.	
Susquehanna Depot	10 Sept. 1856	17	M. H. dedicated 10 Nov. 1869	41
Harmony (Quarry)	13 Nov. 1869	10	School-house, etc.	48
				1253

There have been *twenty-two* distinct organizations, *six* of which have been absorbed by neighboring churches, or dissolved by the loss of members, from various causes.

First Clifford, Lenox, and Union churches belong to the Abington Association; South Auburn, to Wyoming; Harmony, to Deposit (N. Y.); and the others to the Bridgewater Association.

FREE WILL BAPTISTS.

Jackson, organized 1820, m. h.; Liberty, 1848, m. h.; East Lenox, 1852; West Lenox, 1853, m. h.; Thomson. 1868; Gibson Union, 1869; Herrick, m. h., no organization; Franklin, m. h., organization "gone down." [This, with further details, kindly given by A. D. Corse, Esq.]

THE OLD SCHOOL BAPTISTS.

There is a small church of this order called Gibson and Jackson, in Gibson and occasional meetings are held by their preachers.

There is a meeting house of the Seventh Day Baptists in Clifford.

¹ Dropped 1856.

² Dropped 1860; reorganized Sept. 28, 1872.

³ Dissolved 1851.

⁴ Dissolved 1841.

⁵ Dissolved 1850.

⁶ Dissolved 1866.

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL.

Location.	Name.	Organized.	Present Rector.	Communicants.	Church consecrated.
New Milford . . .	St. Mark's.	1816.	J. A. Jerome.	39	November, 1829
Montrose . . .	St. Paul's.	Charter, Feb. 28, 1831	E. A. Warriner.	103	October 27, 1833
Springville . . .	St. Andrew's ¹	do. May, 1832	W. Kennedy.	23	October 21, 1834
Dundaff . . .	St. James'.	1848.	H. C. Howard.	23	
Great Bend . . .	Grace.	1856.	J. A. Jerome.	46	

UNIVERSALIST.

The Universalists have four organized churches, viz.: at Brooklyn, Montrose, Gibson, and Hopbottom; and also three congregations having preaching part of the time: Clifford, Susquehanna Depot, and Elk Lake. Rev. L. F. Porter, missionary, preaches in these places, as well as at Gibson.

The resident ministers are Rev. H. Boughton, at Brooklyn, and A. O. Warren, at Montrose.

There are six church edifices; and five Sabbath-schools, with a scholarship of about three hundred.

ROMAN CATHOLIC.

There are nine Roman Catholic churches, viz.: at Silver Lake, Friendsville, St. Joseph's, Rush, Auburn, Montrose, New Milford, Great Bend, and Susquehanna Depot.

CHAPTER XL.

NEWSPAPERS AND EDITORS.

THE 'Centinel,'² the first newspaper in the county, was published at Montrose, February, 1816, by Justin Clark. Its entire contents would not fill a page of the present 'Independent Republican.' Even had the sheet been as large, it would have been difficult to fill it with news, as the first editor was situated. In

¹ First charter granted to this church October 7, 1817.

² Garner Isbell, Sen., was a printer of the 'Centinel,' and took the first sheet from the press. He preserved a full file of that paper, and of the papers that followed in Montrose, for more than thirty years. To his son, L. B. Isbell, the compiler is indebted for the privilege of constant reference to them during the progress of her work.

1817 he begged his readers to "excuse the barrenness of the 'Centinel,'" for he had received *no papers* by the mail—the one weekly mail.

In the spring of 1818 the 'Centinel' contained the following appeal from the editor: "Help me, or I die! For three months I have not received as much money from the whole of my patrons as the paper itself costs for bare one week."

In 1818 he changed the name of the 'Centinel' to the 'Montrose Gazette,' which he published four years, then sold out to Catlin & Fuller, who continued only a few months in partnership, Geo. Fuller selling out to James Catlin.

Justin Clark removed from Montrose, and died in the spring of 1822.

In 1820 a campaign paper, the 'Republican Reformer,' was printed in Montrose. It had no apparent editor, but he was supposed to be "the brigade inspector," Isaac Post. The 'Pennsylvanian,' another campaign paper, dated at Dundaff, was printed in Montrose. Neither passed beyond a few numbers. Opposed to these, being entirely neutral in politics, was 'The Messenger,' a valuable literary journal, established by Adam Waldie, June, 1820. The second volume was named the 'Susquehanna County Herald.' In 1822 Mr. Waldie sold out to S. C. Wilson & Co.

In 1823 the 'Montrose Gazette' and 'Susquehanna County Herald' were united, and the publication was continued three years by James Catlin.¹

In 1824 he edited and printed, also, 'The Repository,' a literary and religious semi-monthly magazine; and in the fall of the same year he began to issue Elder Dimock's 'Christian Magazine.'

Vol. I. 'The Christian Magazine, a monthly publication, devoted to the public for general information. Published by Davis Dimock, pastor of the Baptist Church at Bridgewater.' Montrose: printed by James Catlin, at the 'Gazette' office. Commenced November 1, 1824, comprising 32 pages, about the size of this book, at \$1 cash, or \$1 25 in grain, flax, or wool.

Vol. II. The same title, but issued semi-monthly, on 8 pages, at 87½ cents cash, in advance; \$1 in grain, etc.

Vol. III. 'Baptist Mirror and Christian Magazine,' etc. Printed by Dimock & Fuller, office of the 'Register,' enlarged to three columns to a page, 8 col. semi-monthly; closed September 17, 1827.

In 1824 George Fuller established and edited the 'Susquehanna County Republican;' the second year he was joined by S. C. Wilson.

December, 1825, both the 'Gazette' and the 'Republican' were merged into the 'Register.'

The 'Register' was established by Davis Dimock, Jr., and Geo. Fuller. After one year the name was changed to 'The Susque-

¹ James Catlin died November, 1847, at Milton, West Florida.

hanna Register,' and was published three years longer by the same parties, who favored the election of Jackson; Geo. Fuller then withdrew, and D. Dimock, Jr., continued its publication alone until January, 1831, when C. L. Ward became his partner.

The accession of Mr. Ward to the editorship was at a period of moment to popular education and the prosecution of the public works; and his best efforts were given to their promotion.

From the above time until March, 1836, he conducted the paper, being for the first two or three months the associate of Davis Dimock, Jr., and for the last fifteen having James W. Chapman in partnership.

In 1832-34 the paper had an additional title, the 'Northern Pennsylvanian.' In 1835 only the original name was used, but the following year the 'Northern Farmer' was attached to it.

In reference to Mr. Ward's ability as a journalist, Greeley's 'New Yorker,' April 9, 1836, says:—

"C. L. Ward, Esq., has withdrawn from the editorial chair of the 'Susquehanna Register,' at Montrose, Pa. He bases his withdrawal on a disinclination to political life in its present aspects and under the prevailing doctrines of the day. The 'Register,' under the auspices of Mr. Ward, has held a high rank among the better sort of journals, and we sincerely regret the loss which the profession as well as the readers of that paper have sustained."

Mr. Ward sold out to D. Dimock, Jr., the firm-name becoming J. W. Chapman & Co., until September, 1836, when J. W. Chapman bought out D. Dimock, Jr., and it became a Whig journal.

'The Susquehanna Register and Northern Farmer' was conducted by James W. Chapman alone through four volumes. In 1841 he was joined by B. H. Mills, but after April, 1843, was again alone until 1846, when, for one year, Theodore Smith was his publisher and co-editor.

June, 1851, 'The Susquehanna Register' establishment passed into the hands of John C. Miller, and April, 1852, it was published by Homer H. Frazier.

In 1854 H. H. Frazier and Theo. Smith were editors and publishers of the last volume of the paper.

January, 1855, its name was changed to the 'Independent Republican,' C. F. Read, associate editor with H. H. Frazier, the publisher.

The 'Independent Volunteer' was established at Montrose by Isaac Fuller, November 4, 1831, and continued ten months, when Asa G. Dimock bought the press and started the 'Democratic Volunteer,' issuing only one or two numbers, when it was repurchased by George and I. Fuller and "restored to Republican principles," and to the old name. The 3d volume was published first by George Fuller alone, and then by E. H. Easterbrooks. The 4th and 5th volumes, by G. Fuller, and the 6th and 7th volumes by Fuller and Read. The 8th volume began November,

1838, under the name of the 'Montrose Volunteer,' C. F. Read, sole editor. The 9th volume was edited by Read and Turrell; the 10th by Abel Turrell, alone, November, 1840; the 11th, under the title of 'Montrose Volunteer and North Star,' was edited by A. Turrell and J. H. Dimock, the 12th by A. Turrell and S. T. Scott. The 13th volume resumed the name of 'Montrose Volunteer,' under the sole supervision of Mr. Turrell, and early in January, 1844, the paper known under all its changes as the 'Volunteer,' ceased to exist.

The 'Northern Democrat' was established by Geo. Fuller and A. Turrell, January 25, 1844. The 2d volume was edited by A. Turrell and I. N. Bullard; the 3d and 4th volumes by Geo. Fuller and O. G. Hempstead; the 5th by the latter alone. With the 7th volume, January, 1849, by the same editor, the name was changed to the 'Montrose Democrat,' which it has retained unaltered to the present day.

About 1851, E. B. and S. B. Chase purchased the establishment, and it continued under the charge of one or both of these editors until 1856, when it was purchased by A. J. Gerritson and J. B. McCollum; the latter sold out January 1, 1858, to Mr. Gerritson, who published and edited the paper until August 1, 1869, when it passed into the hands of the present editor, E. B. Hawley.

The 'Spectator and Freeman's Journal' was established by Albert L. Post, June, 1836. It was a Whig paper devoted to free speech, but became the organ of anti-slavery men. At that time there was but one other paper in the State distinctively anti-slavery. After eighteen months, O. N. Worden was associated with Mr. Post until the enterprise was given up, June, 1840. The press was purchased by Messrs. Ariel Carr and Amos N. Meylert, who published for six months, the 'North Star,' which was continued a few months longer by Ariel Carr and S. T. Scott, when it was merged with the 'Montrose Volunteer.' The 'North Star' had been the outgrowth of divisions among the Democrats. This may be said also of the 'People's Advocate,' established by Franklin Lusk, in 1847, which passed away with the temporary disquiet then existing among politicians.

'Paul Pry,' in 1835, and 'The Moon,' a few years later, were papers issued anonymously in Montrose, to 'touch up' the characters, and, particularly, the foibles of its citizens.

The 'Candid Examiner,' an organ of the Universalist denomination, edited by Messrs. Peck and Marsh, was issued at Montrose in 1827; followed, in 1832, by the 'Herald of Gospel Truth and Watchman of Liberty,' Messrs. Alfred Peck and George Rogers, editors. This was published but a year or two.

The 'Gospel Missionary,' a weekly religious journal of the Universalists, was edited, in 1847, by Rev. J. S. Palmer.

The title 'Northern Pennsylvanian,' as has been seen, formed a part of that of the 'Register' in 1832-3-4. It was proposed in 1824, by Amzi Wilson, as the title of a paper to be issued in Dundaff, but it was not used, the 'Dundaff Republican' being the first paper established there four years later.

The 'Northern Pennsylvanian,' Independent in politics, was started at Susquehanna Depot, in the spring of 1856, C. S. Bennet and A. W. Rowley, proprietors, and a Mr. White editor for a few weeks. H. C. Vail then became editor and proprietor, and under his editorship the paper was Democratic. In 1858, L. P. Hinds took the paper, made it independent again, but in less than a year he sold it to Wm. H. Hunter, who conducted it two or three years, and sold it to P. H. Rafter. The latter sold after about two years to Mr. Benedict, who sold, after a year or two, to S. B. Chase, who took the press to Great Bend, in 1865 or '66, and afterwards sold it to L. Hib. Whittlesey, who edited and published a spicy paper until his death, in 1870. J. R. Gailor succeeded him, but was obliged to relinquish it on account of failing health. The press was removed to New Milford, where, since his death, the 'Northern Pennsylvanian' is published by H. F. Beardsley.

The 'Susquehanna Journal' was established May, 1869, at Susquehanna Depot, by several gentlemen, and edited by Wm. H. Gardner. The present editor is B. F. Pride.

Various small publications, pamphlets, etc., have been issued from each office, and, in some instances, books.

Summary of Newspapers, etc., in Susquehanna County.

- 1816-17. The Centinel.
- 1818-21. The Montrose Gazette.
- 1820. The Republican Reformer; The Pennsylvanian; The Messenger (Lit.).
- 1821-22. Susquehanna County Herald.
- 1823-25. Gazette and Herald united.
- 1824. The Repository (Lit.).
- 1824-25. Susquehanna County Republican.
- 1824-26. The Christian Magazine.
- 1825. The Register.
- 1826-31. The Susquehanna Register.
- 1827. Baptist Mirror, etc.
- 1827. The Candid Examiner.
- 1828-32. The Dundaff Republican.
- 1831-37. Independent Volunteer.
- 1832-36. Susquehanna Register and Northern Pennsylvanian.
- 1832. The Herald and Watchman.
- 1835. Paul Pry.
- 1836-40. The Spectator.
- 1837-50. Susquehanna Register and Northern Farmer.
- 1838-40. Montrose Volunteer.
- 1840. North Star.
- 1841-42. Volunteer and Star.
- 1843. Montrose Volunteer.

1844-48. Northern Democrat.

1847. The Gospel Missionary.

1847-48. The People's Advocate.

1849-72. Montrose Democrat.

1851-54. Susquehanna Register.

1855-72. Independent Republican. (Circulation in 1872, 5350.)

1856-65. The Northern Pennsylvanian. (Susquehanna Depot.)

1869-72. Susquehanna Journal. (Susquehanna Depot.)

In 1865 the Northern Pennsylvanian was removed to Great Bend, and from there, in 1870, to New Milford.

CHAPTER XLI.

AUTHORS AND ARTISTS.

ON the authority of the late Hon. Charles Miner, a "New Yankee Song," dated Auburn Village, July 23, 1803, was the earliest product of the Susquehanna County muse, and his "old and worthy friend Charles Mowry was the writer." He lived not far from Elk Lake, and possibly from the name he gave to his location, the township of Auburn received its name. The song had reference to the Intrusion Law, and began thus:—

" A cruel law is made, boys,
Which much our peace and wealth destroys—
A cruel law is made, boys,
To frighten and distress us;
But if we firm together join,
Supported by a power Divine,
Our Yankee cause shall not decline,
Nor shall it long oppress us."

In the seven remaining stanzas reference is made to Colonels John Franklin and John Jenkins, as those foremost in "the cause." It will be remembered that, though these sturdy champions of Yankee rights resided in the vicinity of Athens, this section as well as that were alike in the disputed territory claimed at the same time by Connecticut and Pennsylvania.

Dr. Israel Skinner, of Oakland (then Harmony), published at an early day a history of the American revolution in verse, a part of which is quoted by Mr. Miner in his 'History of Wyoming.'

Dr. R. H. Rose published a volume of fifty-six poems, or, as he termed them, 'Sketches in Verse,' about 1820. It was a handsomely bound octavo, designed for private circulation only, and but one or two copies can now be found in the county. In this volume his many quotations from the Latin, French, and Italian show his familiarity with various languages and authors. Many

of the sketches were love-ditties, and professed imitations of a race of bards no longer greatly admired. There were also prose versions from the Arabic poets, turned into rhyme. An exception to the foregoing is found in his 'Instructions to Manufacturers,' in which is seen a gleam of the wit and railery of which he is said to have been fond. He could, at least, follow his own "Instructions:"—

"What! you would write a sonnet!—sit you down,
And take your pen, no matter for the theme,
So it be dull and sad—a waking dream;
And, careless of the peevish Muse's frown,
Run stanza into stanza. Break your lines
And form them that the first and fourth may chime,
And to the third the second be the rhyme.

"Oft introduce a colon: but when shines
A gleam of passion, never then neglect
A note of admiration, and an Oh!
For thus you will display a deal of wo,
And to your sonnet give a fine effect.
Then lug two limping lines in at the close,
And swear 'tis thus the great PETRARCHA'S metre flows."

A work designed apparently for circulation in England, and which did circulate there and influence immigration to this county, was written here, and bore the following on its title-page:—

"Letters from the British Settlement in Pennsylvania: to which are added, the Constitution of the United States and of Pennsylvania, and extracts from the laws respecting aliens and naturalized citizens. By C. B. Johnson, M.D."

This was entered according to Act of Congress, by H. Hall, Philadelphia, 1819. Another edition was published the same year, by John Miller, Piccadilly, London (England).

More than one English immigrant bemoaned the day he read 'Johnson's Letters,' and heaped upon the author accusations born of disappointment. "Too rose-colored," his descriptions may have been; but so, also, were the notions of town-bred people respecting their own capacity to endure the inevitable ills attendant upon pioneer life.

Samuel Barnard was among those who left the old world in 1819, with hopes founded upon statements contained in the 'Letters.' While in this county he devoted himself to the preparation of a—

"POLYGLOTT GRAMMAR of the Hebrew, Chaldee, Syriac, Greek, Latin, English, French, Italian, Spanish, and German languages, reduced to one common rule of syntax, and an uniform mode of declension and conjugation as far as practicable."

This was published in 1825, in Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, and Boston. President John Q. Adams was a subscriber for the work. Mr. Barnard presented an elegant copy, prepared expressly for the occasion, to General Lafayette. Several col-

leges subscribed for copies, as also the Department of State at Washington.

He removed to New York, and afterwards to Kentucky, where he died in 1850. One of his daughters, Mrs. George Fuller, is still a resident of Montrose.

We are indebted to the same alluring 'Letters' for the arrival from England, in 1819, of Mrs. Juliana Frances Turner. During the next three years she wrote the 'Harp of the Beechwoods,' a volume of sixty-five poems. This was published at Montrose, by Adam Waldie, in 1822.

Some of her ballads, in old English style, are quite pleasing. Other pieces possess real merit; but fairies and goblins seem most frequently to have entertained her fancy and engaged her pen. A sample of the smoothness of her style may be seen in the following extract:—

"THE COT OF CONTENT."

"On the banks of the Schuylkill still evening was glinting,
And the tide's silvery surge a soft murmuring kept,
While the bright hues of autumn the slope woods were tinting,
And the brown sunny mountains in mellowness slept.
There I marked a sweet villa, the day star declining,
Where the jessamine lingered, with late roses blent;
Where the scarlet-leaved creepers neat trellised were twining,
And they called the sweet bower—the Cot of Content."

Mrs. Turner was born in London, married in 1802, and died in England early in 1837.

Reference has been made to Adam Waldie as her publisher; on another page his connection with the newspaper press is given. His position as editor of a literary rather than a political journal, and his influence in calling out the talent that lay dormant here, entitle him to grateful mention.

In 1823, a painting was made by — Thompson, of Susquehanna County, from a scene in 'The Pioneers.'

In 1829, a new hymn book, by Sebastian and Barzillai Streeter.

In 1832, materials for a history of this section, by C. L. Ward, destroyed by fire.

A number of pamphlets have been issued from the county press, some of which are remembered: The Atonement, in Seven Links, by Jireh Bryan; a Historical Discourse, by Rev. Adam Miller, 1844, published by A. Turrell; a discourse on Baptism, by Rev. A. L. Post.

In 1837, 'The Spectator' office printed a book of seventy-six pages, entitled 'Intellectual Chronology,' for schools and learners, by "Technica Memoria" [R. Pike]. It endeavored to simplify the acquisition of dates, by the use of letters for figures, weaving them with words, and often into poetry.

From 1820 to 1840, the newspapers contained frequent contributions of much literary value, from various parts of the county. The schools at Mannington and Harford sent out many; and some fugitive pieces of poetry of real merit gave evidence of native talent if not of genius.

The following, by Miss A. L. Fraser, is only one poem of many of hers worthy of mention:—

“LINES.

- “How beautiful she lay
 Upon her couch of death,
 Ere from the lovely clay,
 Parted the living breath.
 Could one so loved be dying,
 Whose gentle voice we heard,
 Sweetly to ours replying
 In many a tender word?
- “Like sculpture fair her brow
 Gleamed through her sunny hair;
 How rich her cheeks’ warm glow—
 The hectic rose was there.
 O bright deceitful blossom!
 Flower of the fatal breath!
 To the eye thou’rt life and beauty,
 But to the wearer—death!
- “Bright shone her eye, and clear
 As the cloudless blue of heaven;
 Its spirit-light how dear,
 How soon to darkness given!
 Now she has passed the shadow,
 Ours is the void, the gloom;
 She bathes in love’s pure ocean,
 Far, far beyond the tomb!
- “Sweetly the morning star,
 Fading is lost in light—
 So fled the maid afar,
 Forever, from our sight.
 Weep not! she dwelt among us
 A bird of brighter skies,
 Whose song was sweet while fettered,
 Far sweeter when it flies!”

It would be erroneous to suppose that the last thirty years have been less prolific in poetical or prose contributions to the local press; but attention can only be called to compositions of a more enduring character.

“Edith May” is the *nom de plume* of Miss Drinker, the gifted poetess whose summer home has been in Montrose for the last twenty-five years; and whose poems, evincing true genius, have delighted readers both at home and in the literary circles of our country. A Philadelphia firm solicited her poems for publication, and they appeared in 1851, prefaced by a tribute from

N. P. Willis. She also published, in 1855, 'Tales and Poems for children.'

It has been frequently remarked, "she might have sat for her own

"THEODORA."

"In her eyes are tranquil shadows
Lofty thoughts alone can make,
Like the darkness thrown by mountains
O'er a lake.

"If you speak, the slow returning
Of her spirit from afar
To their depths, is like the advent
Of a star.

* * * * * *

"Be a theme however homely,
It is glorious at her will,
Like a common air transfigured
By a master's skill.

"And her words, severely simple
As a drapery Grecian-wrought,
Show the clear symmetric outline
Of her thought."

During the late war, Mrs. L. C. Searle issued a pamphlet volume entitled, 'McClellan the Second Washington.'

She has nearly ready for publication the biography of her father, Elder Davis Dimock.

In 1865, the 'Life and Times of Sheardown' was edited by O. N. Worden, of New Milford. Its title in full gives a general idea of the work.

'Half a Century's Labors in the Gospel, and Thirty-five Years of Backwoods Mission Work and Evangelizing in N. Y. and Penn'a. An Autobiography, by Thomas S. Sheardown, as related in his seventy-fourth year to a Stenographer.'

Also, 'A Jubilee volume,' entitled—

'The First Half Century of the Northumberland Baptist Association, situated in Northumberland, Montour, Sullivan, Lycoming, Clinton, Union, and Snyder Counties, Penn'a. From 1820 to 1870. Compiled at the request of the Association by O. N. Worden.'

He has also issued various historical sketches.

In 1866, Rev. H. A. Riley, late pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Montrose, Pa., wrote and published 'The Restoration: or, The Hope of the Early Church Realized;' a 12mo. volume of nearly three hundred pages.

In 1868, a second edition was issued by J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia, the title of which gives a clearer idea of the work. 'The Restoration at the Second Coming of Christ. A Summary of Millenarian Doctrines.'

The New York 'Evangelist' said:—



Emily Smith May



"This volume is an addition to the popular literature on the subject of the Premillennial Advent of Christ. The book is the presentation in a modified form of a series of sermons preached to the congregation over which the author was settled. His endeavor seems to have been to present the whole subject in a simple scriptural light, relying on no arguments but those which come from a fair interpretation of the inspired words, and turning aside to scarce any objection which is not drawn from the same source."

The 'Western Episcopalian,' in a review of its merits, stated that—

"In the language of Dr. Seiss' introduction, 'it is a work of a sober, mature, and candid mind, conscious of having something important to communicate. . . . It ably deals with the great questions of the course of future Providence, and the consummation for which our religion teaches us to hope. It makes no pretensions, but is full of important truth, fairly deduced, popularly presented, and suitably enforced. It is 'meat in due season,' from a faithful steward, and a workman who need not be ashamed.'—This eulogy, we think, is no more than just, and we cordially recommend the volume to all who are seeking an insight into the solemn subject of which it treats."

'The Nation: The Foundations of Civil Order and Political Life in the United States,' by Elisha Mulford, 1870.

In compassing his object, Mr. Mulford discussed, amongst other subjects, The Relation of the People and the Land: Representative Government: The right of Suffrage: The Nation and the Commonwealth: The Nation the Antagonist of the Empire: The Nation the Antagonist of the Confederacy: The Nation the Integral Element in History: The Nation the Goal of History.

The work is one upon which the compiler is quite willing to confess her inability to pass judgment, and may be allowed, instead, to give the opinions of others.

James B. Angell, President of the University of Michigan, says:—

"It is the most valuable contribution to political philosophy which has been written in the English language in this generation. Its hearty recognition of the moral element in the national life carries it back to the good old times of Hooker and Milton. It ought to impress our people with the conviction that not alone tariff and exchanges, but above all the moral and religious spirit of a nation determines its career and destiny."

Charles Sumner wrote:—

"I have read it from the first to the last with constant interest and sympathy. It is a most important contribution to our political literature, and cannot fail to strengthen and elevate our national life." In a private letter to an eminent scholar, Mr. Sumner says: "It is thoughtful, matterful, learned, and right."

J. L. Diman, Professor of History in Brown University, says:—

"It is not only by far the most profound and exhaustive study in the field of speculative politics that American scholarship has yet produced, but we shall be obliged to go very far back in the literary annals of our mother country to find anything worthy of comparison with it. Certainly since the

fruitful discussions of the seventeenth century, England has produced no single political treatise which, for seriousness of conviction, and sustained elevation of thought, deserves to be ranked beside it."

The following is from the literary items of the 'Boston Recorder':—

"Very little has yet been known, personally, of Mr. E. Mulford, the author of that profound and sterling work, 'The Nation.' Born in Montrose, Penn., and a graduate of Yale College in the class of 1855, he studied theology for a time at Andover, and afterwards in Germany, where also he entered upon the thorough study of German philosophy and political science, of which we see the first-fruits in his great treatise. He was for a time the rector of an Episcopalian church at Orange, N. J., from which position he retired a few years since, and took up his residence at Friendsville, Susquehanna Co., Pa., near Montrose, where he has since lived in strict seclusion and close devotion to study."

He obtained in college special distinction in literature, and was the chief of the editors of the 'Yale Literary Magazine.'

A correspondent of the 'Golden Age' writes of his (Mr. Mulford's) retirement, closing thus:—

"There, in a delightful domestic circle, with the brightness and gayety of children giving grace to every day, he realizes such a life as Southey and Wordsworth lived. It is in the midst of such an atmosphere of refined and thoughtful leisure that he has for years been building up the great argument on which he has 'sought to give expression to the thought of the people in the late war, and that conception of the nation which they who were so worthy, held worth living and dying for.'"

Wm. A. Crossman, in 1867, prepared a work to facilitate county business, entitled 'Assessors' Form Guide,' and its worth is securing its use in several counties besides our own.

Hon. S. B. Chase, of Great Bend, has issued several works, among which are the following: 'Digest and Treatise on Parliamentary Law' (now in its ninth edition); 'Good of the Order'; 'Manual of Good Templars'; 'History of Good Templars,' for Mill's Temperance Manual.

Mrs. S. B. Chase, in 1870, issued 'Derry's Lake,' a good temperance story.

Mrs. Laura Trowbridge, of Great Bend, is the author of a cook-book of "more than thirteen hundred sensible receipts," from a practical cook.

Mrs. Mayo, of Susquehanna Depot, has executed oil-paintings of scenery in that vicinity, which are said to possess much merit.

Mrs. Theodore Smith, and her sister, Miss L. Avery, excel in water-colors, particularly in painting "Autumn Leaves."

Stephen Wilson, a former resident of Montrose, but now living in Philadelphia, became quite a successful portrait painter.

¹ The degree of LL D. was recently conferred on Mr. Mulford by Yale College.



REV. ELISHA MULFORD, LL.D.

He commenced painting in Philadelphia. In the midst of success, after a few years, he decided "to rescue from oblivion the looks and customs of the vanishing races of native man in America."

In 1832, he started for the Great West, without government or individual aid; and, during the summer and fall, his letters from the Mandan Village, Upper Missouri, were published in the 'N. Y. Commercial Advertiser' and the 'N. Y. Spectator.' During the winter following he visited his father at Great Bend.

In 1834 he was among the Comanches and Pawnees, and, later, on the Red River, 200 miles from Fort Gibson, at the mouth of the False Washita. January, 1836, a letter of his was published in the 'Montrose Volunteer,' from which we learn that his wife was then with him.

His letters to the N. Y. papers, published November, 1836, were reprinted here, and it was said of him, "The productions of his pen are hardly less graphic than those of his pencil."

In the fall of 1837, Mr. Catlin lectured in New York, in connection with the exhibition of paintings, while Black Hawk, Keokuk, and about fifty Indians from four tribes were present.

In 1838, the value of his paintings was estimated at from \$100,000 to \$150,000.

In eight years he visited about fifty tribes, and brought home more than 600 oil-paintings (in every instance from nature) of portraits, landscapes, and Indian customs, and every article of their manufacture, such as weapons, costumes, wigwams, etc. He exhibited this collection in New York and Washington, and also in London and Paris. He had offers from noblemen in England for his collection, but he declined them, preferring to dispose of it in his own country. He offered it to the government of the United States for \$65,000. The bill for its purchase was discussed in the Senate, and lost by one vote. This was probably owing to the influence of H. R. Schoolcraft, who had endeavored to secure the use of Mr. Catlin's paintings to illustrate a work he contemplated editing for the United States; but Mr. C. had already incurred great labor and expense towards a publication of his own, and declined his proposition.

Further than this, Mr. Schoolcraft stated, in his large work afterwards published and presented under authority of the government to scientific institutions throughout the civilized world, that Mr. Catlin's descriptions of the Mandan religious ceremonies were contrary to facts, that they were the works of his imagination, that the tribe was not extinct but rapidly increasing, etc. Mr. S.'s statements were not made from his own observation, and Mr. Catlin, in a memorial presented to Congress in 1869, has abundantly disproved them. In this memorial, dated Brussels, Belgium, December, 1868, he petitioned for an act of Congress authorizing Mr. Trubner, of London, the present proprietor of his "O-kee-pa," to supply him with a number of copies of that work (descriptive of the ceremonies referred to above, and attested to by the late Prince Maximilian of Prussia, who visited the Mandan tribe about the time Mr. Catlin did), equal to the number of copies of Schoolcraft's book circulated, for presentation to the same institutions and libraries, as far as possible. This was all the amende he asked. This has not been granted, unless very recently.

While in London, unfortunate speculations subjected Mr. Catlin's collection to liens, under which it was seized and advertised to be sold at public auction. Mr. Joseph Harrison, of Philadelphia, then passing through London, paid off the liens and took the collection with him to Philadelphia.

It was under these discouraging circumstances that Mr. Catlin left London in 1853, for Venezuela, South America. He traversed British and Dutch Guiana, the valley of the Amazon, and other parts of Brazil, the Andes, Peru, Ecuador, Bolivia, California; reached Vancouver and Queen Charlotte's, and having visited most of the tribes of Indians of the Pacific coast as far as Kamt-

schatka and the Aleutian Islands, he returned to cross the Rocky Mountains from San Diego to Santa Fé and Matamoras, thence to Guatemala, to Yucatan, to Cuba, and back to London. His last roamings were in some places extremely hazardous.

At this time he added one hundred and twenty-five full length portraits, and many other paintings, to his previous collection. He says:—

“With the labor of thirteen years, I have visited and recorded the looks and customs of nearly every tribe (and remnant of tribes) now existing in North America.”

The following high compliment was paid to Mr. Catlin during the recent exhibition of his American Indian collection in Brussels, by Mr. P. Van Schendel, the celebrated artificial light painter:—

“I paid four visits to Mr. Catlin’s Indian collection, being particularly delighted with his landscape views, in which I find a remarkable effect of perspective, and that produced visibly, without the application of the rules of perspective science; and his night scenes of salmon spearing, deer hunting, etc., by torch light, and his numerous sun-setting scenes I found of such striking effect, neatness of tone, and brilliancy of colors, that they are not to be equalled by any of the existing artists of Brussels.”

In 1871, Mr. Catlin returned to this country and exhibited his collection in New York, and more recently in Washington, D. C.

Influential city papers urge that it be bought by the government. He is now verging on eighty years of age, and still retains, if his deafness be excepted, a vigor of mind and body that many men of half his years might crave.¹

From an English paper we learn that he is preparing to publish a work entitled ‘The Lifted and Subsided Rocks of America, with their Influences on Oceanic, Atmospheric, and Land Currents.’

CHAPTER XLII.

PHYSICIANS AND THE MEDICAL SOCIETY.

THOSE WHO PRACTICED IN THE COUNTY BEFORE 1820.

- 1787. A Dr. Caperton, it is said, accompanied the Nicholson settlers to Hopbottom, now Brooklyn, but may not have remained more than a year.
- 1788. Rev. Daniel Buck, of Great Bend, practiced as a physician.
- 1791. Dr. Forbes, at Great Bend. He left before 1807.
- 1794. Comfort Capron, in Nine Partners Settlement, Harford, until his death in 1800.
- 1801. Noah Kincaid, } who died in 1804.
- 1801. Asa Cornwell, } “Phesitions” on tax-list for “Willingborough.”
- 1804. Robert Chandler, at Gibson, a “Root and Cancer Doctor” of considerable practice.
- 1804. Charles Fraser, at Great Bend. He left soon after, for a time, but returned, and remained until 1813, when he removed to Montrose, where he practiced to the close of his life.
- 1807, or earlier, Reuben Baker, near the Forks of the Wyalusing, but just below the present line of Susquehanna County, practiced extensively in its western townships.

¹ George Catlin died at Jersey City, December, 1872.

- 1807, or earlier, Jonathan Gray, at Great Bend.
 1807. Eleazar Parker came to Great Bend and remained two and a half years.
 1808. Dr. Luce, at Harford for a few years, then removed to Great Bend.
 1809. Eld. D. Dimock, Bridgewater.
 1810. Horace Griswold, at Harford a year or two.
 1811. Mason Denison, at Brooklyn a few years, then at Montrose, where he practiced to the close of his life, 1838.
 1811. James Cook, in Bridgewater.
 1812. Asa Park, in Bridgewater.
 1812. Joseph B. Streeter, in Harford, practiced over forty years, is still living, the oldest physician in the county.
 1812. Dr. Stanford, in Liberty.
 1813. Daniel McFall, at Great Bend, where he died in 1835.
 1813, or a little later, Benj. A. Denison, at Montrose, afterwards in Dimock.
 1814. Israel Skinner, on the line of Great Bend and Old Harmony (now Oakland).
 1815. Samuel Bissel, Brooklyn, where he died in 1829.
 1816. Calvin Leet, a short time in Choconut, then removed to Friendsville, where he still resides.
 1816. William Bacon, at Hopbottom.
 1817. Lemuel W. Bingham, New Milford, fifty years.
 1818. Charles B. Johnson, Silver Lake.
 1820. Dr. Emerson, Silver Lake.
 Dr. Jackson, of Tunkhannock (father of Thos. Jackson, M.D.), practiced in Springville at an early day. Mrs. Mercy Tyler, of Harford, and afterwards of Ararat, rode extensively in answer to the calls of the sick.

THE FIRST MEDICAL SOCIETY.

In May, 1820, Dr. L. W. Bingham proposed the formation of a county medical society, but no organization was attempted until September 23, following. At present no papers can be found to give the result of a meeting for this purpose, advertised to be held on that day. But whether Dr. Bingham's effort was successful or not, the credit of making it should be awarded him.

Lemuel Webb Bingham was born at Windham, Connecticut, January 7, 1794; studied medicine with Dr. Avery of the same place, and attended medical lectures at Yale College. He commenced practice in New Milford, and adjoining townships in Susquehanna County, in 1817, where he remained until his death, fifty years later, at the age of seventy-three.

The Second Medical Society of Susquehanna County was formed upon the suggestion of Dr. John L. Kite, at the office of Dr. Asa Park, November 19, 1838, long prior to the organization of the State and National Medical Associations. The original members were: Drs. Asa Park, Ezra S. Park, and Josiah Blackman, of Montrose; L. W. Bingham, New Milford; B. Richardson, Brooklyn; Calvin Leet, Friendsville; W. W. Pride, Springville; and John L. Kite, Silver Lake (but now of Philadelphia). B. Richardson was chosen president; J. Blackman, secretary; and L. W. Bingham, chairman of committee to draft a constitution. On the 4th of February, 1839, a constitution was adopted.

Thomas Jackson, of Montrose, afterwards of Binghamton, and now deceased, may have been among those who joined the society at the semi-annual meetings, held regularly previous to November 10, 1854; but, at this date, the records of the society, then in the office of the secretary, Dr. Park, were burned with it in the fire that destroyed nearly all the west side of the public avenue, and the names of all the former members are not recollected.

The society met January 3, 1855, and from the list of those present, and the officers then elected, we have these additional names: Drs. Ezra Patrick, Jr., and Gordon Z. Dimock, Montrose; Latham A. Smith, New Milford; C. E. Edwards, and A. M. Tiffany, of Harford—then associate members only, but received in full in 1863-4.

Braton Richardson was chosen president for that year; L. W. Bingham, vice-president; G. Z. Dimock, secretary, and L. A. Smith, treasurer. Delegates were appointed to the State Medical Society, and to the American Medical Association; the secretary was requested to rewrite the constitution of the society, and a special meeting was appointed to be held at New Milford, the following May to consider its adoption. At the regular meeting, June 6, 1855, at Lodersville (now Great Bend borough), it received the signatures of most of the then members of the society, to which have since been added the following:—

Prior to 1865, Drs. Wm. Bissel, of Jessup; Israel B. Lathrop, and P. Edwards Brush, Springville; James Griffin (died January, 1858), — Lyman (dead), E. F. Wilmot, Great Bend; D. C. Warner, W. L. Richardson, Calvin C. Halsey, J. W. Cobb, D. A. Lathrop, and E. L. Gardner, Montrose; A. C. Blakeslee, Dimock; P. H. Gardner, Clifford; H. A. Tingley, and E. N. Smith, Susquehanna Depot; C. L. Stiles, Gibson; David C. Ainey, New Milford; J. B. Streeter, and G. M. Gamble, Harford; A. B. Sherman, Fairdale; E. L. Handrick, Friendsville.

Later members—Drs. A. D. Tewksbury, Auburn; Samuel Birdsell, H. P. Moody (died in 1869), James D. Leslie, Susquehanna Depot; A. T. Brundage, Factoryville(?); A. J. Ainey, A. Chamberlain, Brooklyn; W. J. Alexander, Dundaff; F. D. Gulick, Dimock(?); S. W. Dayton, and C. P. Bigelow, Great Bend; W. N. Green, Hopbottom; E. G. Marsh, South Gibson. Upon the present records appear notices of election to membership of the following, whose names are not on the list:

Drs. Addison Newton, Liberty; N. Y. Leet, Friendsville; — Orchard, Jackson; G. W. Beach, Brooklyn; E. L. Blakeslee, Dimock.

The society is generally represented in the State society and in the American Medical Association. Reports of the proceedings of these bodies are given at the meetings of the society; the sanitary condition of the respective localities of members is stated;

clinics are held, at which patients with chronic diseases are prescribed for free of charge; essays upon medical topics are read, and free discussion is maintained. A fee bill has been adopted, all the members now making uniform charges.

The present members number 25, with three additional honorary members. Dr. C. C. Halsey, the president of the society, is one of the censors for the 2d district State society; and Dr. W. L. Richardson, the treasurer, is one of the vice-presidents of the State society. Five members of the county society are permanent members of the State society, and the names of most of the members are also on the roll of the latter. Only 35 out of the 66 counties of the State are now represented in it.

Among other physicians who have practiced, or are now practicing in the county, though *not known* to have been connected with the Medical Society, the following are remembered:

Drs. Chas. W. Bankson, — Plant, Isaac, James A., and Alexander Lewis, and Charles Bliss (dead), of Silver Lake; R. S. Eastman, A. H. Bolles, and D. C. Porter, Montrose; — Munger (1822), E. Mack, Samuel Bissell (died 1829), P. M. Way, and — Meacham, Brooklyn; Albright Dunham, Elijah Snell, — Ruttan, Rush; Clark Dickerman, Harford; Wm. Terbell, Joseph Falkner and — Gritman, Dundaff; Rufus Fish, Liberty; N. P. Cornwell, Jessup; E. L. Brundage, Charles Drinker, Gibson; E. S. Hines, and — Vailes, Friendsville; — Field, an Englishman, in Bridgewater; — Daniels, Great Bend; — Shutts, Susquehanna Depot; — Lambert, Springville; H. A. Riley and J. D. Vail, homœopathic physicians, of Montrose; Samuel Wright, botanic, at Hopbottom; J. W. and D. F. Brundage, water-cure establishment in Gibson.

Miss Ellen E. Mitchell, of Montrose, was one of five ladies who were admitted to the practice of medicine by receiving a degree from the Women's Medical College of New York in 1871.

The Susquehanna and Bradford Dental Society held its third semi-annual session at the office of W. W. Smith, in Montrose, Sept. 14th, 1871.

At a meeting of physicians, held at West Harford, Susquehanna County, Aug. 15th, 1872, an organization called the Susquehanna Eclectic Medical Society was formed, as an auxiliary to the State and National societies. President, E. N. Loomis, of Oakley.

CHAPTER XLIII.

TEMPERANCE SOCIETIES.

IN the second issue of the 'Centinel,' February, 1816, Daniel Curtis offers "350 gallons of good, rectified whiskey at \$1.00 per gallon;" and the whole air of the advertisement presupposes the community ready to hail it as a benefaction.

F. Fordham announces "a hogshead of rum, to be sold cheaper than ever it was sold in the village." But he was a respecter of money, if not of persons, since he asked "9 shillings only if N. Y. bills are offered, but 10 shillings if those of Philadelphia, and 11 shillings if bills from the interior."

Nathan Raynor "will sell rum if requested."

In 1817, Isaac Post "sells brandy, rum, gin, and whiskey;" but this was not probably a *new* business with him, since he became a "taverner" ten years previous to this.

Sayre & Mulford advertised, about the same time with Mr. Post, rum and brandy "of the first quality;" and doubtless the endorsement would be considered good, could their liquors be tasted after the adulterated ones of the present day.

In 1819, "Nathan H. Lyons sells whiskey by the hogshead, tierce, barrel, gallon, or quart," in a small red house on the corner now occupied by J. R. Dewitt & Co.

In 1820, probably from the increased number of distilleries, whiskey is sold, for cash, at 44 cents per gallon, by I. & D. Post.

The Britannia Distillery is announced in 1821.

In 1822, "Butterfield's best rectified whiskey" was by no means the result of *his* enterprise alone; I. P. Foster, Daniel Lathrop, and S. S. Mulford were silent partners.

In 1823, the 'Montrose Gazette' complains of the scarcity of wheat, which is felt the more since "too much rye goes to the distilleries." One bushel of rye purchased five quarts of whiskey.

At Montrose, 1824, "Herrick, Fordham & Clark continue the stilling business on a pretty extensive scale." This establishment was closed in June, 1825, and soon after "Clark and Tyler (Harvey) take pleasure in informing the public, that the distillery they have been erecting near Jones's mill is now completed and in perfect readiness for business."

But time would fail to write of all the places where the *worm of the still* lay coiled quiescent—its treacherous power not yet recognized.

The venerable Rev. Burr Baldwin, on being asked, "Where were the ministers all this time of darkness?" replied, "*Treating* their parishioners, as they felt in duty bound, whenever favored with a visit, and accepting from them reciprocal attentions." (Elder Dimock was an exception to this rule, though he, too, before being a church-member, was a distiller.) It was not until after he had attended a meeting of the synod, where the temperance question was discussed, as late as 1828, that he felt something must be done to arrest the tide of intemperance which threatened the spiritual death of so many. He first cast out the beam from his own eye, by destroying the few "cordials" he had in his house, and then he saw clearly to cast out the mote that was in the eye of his brother; and one of the first efforts he made was upon Esquire T——, of Harford, whose distillery was sending to Gibson, and even to Honesdale, constant supplies, while he was active as a member of Bible and tract societies, and contributed to home and foreign missions, which just then began to engage the attention of Christian men. Mr. B. set the matter before him by comparing the results likely to flow from the two sorts of influence he was exerting; and the balance appeared so largely in favor of profanity, and Sabbath-desecration, and wife-heart-breaking which so often accompanied the use of ardent spirits, that after this interview his distillery was turned into a "conference room."

But it was a harder task for Deacon H——, of New Milford, to bring his business to tally with an awakened conscience. Rev. Mr. B——, meeting him one day, spoke to him of the alarming increase of drunkenness in the county, and of the responsibility of the church in regard to it, and asked him to give up his distillery. "Can't do it, Brother B——; it's the support of my family." Months passed on, and the parties again met. "How about the distillery, Brother H——?" "Brother B——, I *can't* give it up—it's *the support of my family*." What could be said to this? If a man provide not for his own household, is he not worse than an infidel? More months went by, and the deacon again met his reprover. "How about that distillery?"

"It's given up," was the ready reply.

"Ah, indeed! but how about the family?"

"Oh, they're living yet!"

But we anticipate a year or two. In the mean time, nearer home, the inconsistency of selling Bibles with one hand, and intoxicating drinks with the other, was not apparently felt. We may be allowed, without injury to the dear, silver-crowned head of the senior deacon of the Montrose Presbyterian Church, to quote from one of his numerous advertisements of the years 1824 and 1825. After giving a long list of dry-goods, hardware, etc., he

mentions books, among which were "Daboll's arithmetics, *testaments*," etc. (in small type), and just below in staring letters—

WHISKEY

cheap by the



Ah, well! it is to be hoped "the times of this ignorance God winked at," and that the "100 pages of tracts for 10 cents" were blessed in spite of the wretched company they were obliged to keep.

To form some idea of the demand for the product of distilleries one must take into consideration, aside from the merchants (all of whom sold liquors), the number of "licensed taverners," and the fact that too often there were those who stooped to evade the law, and kept what were styled "tippling houses." As intimated before, some of it found its way to Honesdale, to supply laborers along the Delaware and Hudson Canal.

Horatio Strong, of Willingboro (Great Bend), was licensed to keep a tavern in 1796; A. H. Kent, H. Tiffany, and W. Chamberlin, in 1798; Sylvanus Hatch, in 1799, and the same year, Abel Kent, Wright Chamberlin, and Hosea Tiffany (Nicholson, afterwards Harford), either renewed their licenses or procured them for the first time. Oliver Trowbridge and Stephen Wilson, in 1801; D. Summers, Jas. Parmeter, and Robt. Corbet, as early as 1801; McCarty and Isaac Post, in 1807; B. Hayden, A. Du Bois, Wm. Tanner (Clifford), John Kent, and William Ward, in 1812; Calvin Summers, Thomas (?) Mott, Rufus Bowman, and Zebulon Deans, in 1814; Benjamin Sayre and Seth Mitchell, in 1819.

The Luzerne County Court, the last year of its connection with Susquehanna County, issued 72 licenses; and at the following April session in Montrose, 15 were granted.

Some of the earlier prominent men who kept houses of entertainment are omitted, as dates cannot be supplied. It may be of interest to know some of the former innkeepers of our borough. The Montrose hotel, as is generally known, originally consisted of one sharp-gabled building, which has since been removed a little to the west of the one recently occupied by Mr. Koon. A part of the latter once formed the addition to the old one, though standing at a right angle with it. After Mr. Post moved to the corner now occupied by Boyd & Co., Chapman Carr kept the hotel—in 1818, or earlier; in 1819, a Mr. Green was there; then, J. Buckingham, D. Searle, and Mr. Hepburn—the latter in 1831—when the post-office had its first removal from that house to the opposite corner, afterwards occupied by William L. Post. It was once a temperance house; but of that, another time.

Daniel Curtis's stand forms the nucleus around which J. S.

Tarbell's more imposing structure has been built. Doubtless Mr. C.'s noted "assembly room," in which so many have

"Tripped the light fantastic toe,"

has quite sunk into insignificance. A. D. Olmstead and D. D. Warner have been proprietors of the house since his day.

A building, destroyed by fire within the last dozen years, stood just below what was long known as "Keeler's Hotel;" it was erected by Austin Howell in 1812—the year after the village was laid out—and was used as a hotel many years, first by himself, then by Eli Gregory; but as early as 1817, Edward Fuller had taken the stand, and he was there as late as 1828. There are those still living who recall with relish the dinners prepared by Mrs. F., a person of whom might be written a far higher commendation than that she excelled as a cook. Stephen Hinds afterward owned the house, and furnished accommodations for boarders.

The Washington Hotel, on the site of the recent "Keystone," was kept by B. Sayre, with the usual intoxicating accompaniments, from 1819 till 1828, at least, but at last he dispensed with them altogether. For a few months in 1822 Henry Catlin run the establishment. The basement of "Keeler's Hotel" once served as a jail for the county, and there, also, Deacon N. Scott was master of the first school taught in the village.

But to return. In 1827, the year previous to the one marked by the first temperance society in the county, a kind of desperation seems to have been felt by all classes in view of the deplorable results of intemperate drinking. Some of those who felt themselves under the control of their appetites for liquor, treated their case as one needing medicine—and they were wise. The prescription used was "ipecacuanha, tartar emetic, and assafoetida;" and we are told that individuals of Susquehanna County, of very intemperate habits, were cured by taking it. The Rev. Lyman Beecher's famous Six Sermons on Intemperance were widely circulated and read about this time, and were having a silent but powerful influence. The following occurrence, in June of the same year, doubtless started many into thought, if not into action. A man purchased a gallon of whiskey at one of the stores in Montrose one Monday, and was found dead on the Thursday following, in an unoccupied house a mile west of the village. He was seen Monday afternoon walking on the turnpike leading to this building, had not been seen after that, and must have been dead for two or three days. A jug containing a quart of whiskey was found a few feet from him. No wonder that sober men sought to find some means of averting a repetition of such an occurrence, and that a few agreed to meet and "get up a pledge." The following is the result:—

"At a meeting of a number of gentlemen¹ from different parts of the county, at the Presbyterian meeting-house, in Montrose, on the 1st day of October, 1828, the expediency of forming a society in this county for the suppression of intemperance was considered, and it was resolved that a meeting be held at the court-house in Montrose, on Monday evening of next December court, for the purpose of forming said society. Wm. JESSUP, Sec."

Agreeably to this notice, a large number of the citizens assembled at the time, December 1st, and place designated; and the object of the meeting having been stated, the Hon. Davis Dimock was called to the chair, and Wm. Jessup appointed secretary. Addresses were made by several gentlemen, and a constitution was unanimously adopted.

Gentlemen from nearly every township in the county were present, and a free discussion of the subject took place. The evils of intemperance were so apparent, that every member seemed desirous of doing everything in his power to prevent its progress. Forty-one gentlemen became members of the society.

The annual meeting was appointed for Tuesday evening of the next court, and the choice of officers was deferred until that time, but it was resolved that Elder Davis Dimock, Rev. Burr Baldwin, Asa Dimock, Jr., and Wm. Jessup, should be an executive committee, and be directed to procure printed copies of the constitution for circulation, and to do what might be necessary to promote the objects of the society. A liberal contribution was then made to the funds of the society, and placed in the hands of the treasurer *pro tem.*, Asa Dimock, Jr.

During court, December 1, 1828, the Grand Jury of this county, sensible of the great and growing evils of intemperance, and wishing to discourage it by example, resolved "to abolish the custom heretofore practiced, of using ardent spirits while in session."

Work in different parts of the county now began in earnest.

At the close of 1828 there were about four hundred and fifty temperance societies in the United States; Susquehanna County now began to swell the number, even before the society at Montrose had elected its officers, which election was postponed to February court, 1829, but in reality it was not effected till fourth of May following. Harford was thoroughly organized for work with twenty-five members, "hardly one of whom could have

¹ After a church meeting, thinly attended, a few days previous, Thursday, September 11, 1828, the following gentlemen signed the pledge: Wm. Jessup, Benjamin Sayre, Benajah McKenzie, Isaac P. Foster, and Deacon Moses Tyler.

In Elder D. Dimock's diary, more than ten years before this pledge was adopted, the following record appears: "Feb. 1818. Wrote an agreement, for the inhabitants of the village, to suppress drunkenness." Thus, though it is not positively known that this "agreement" was ever circulated and signed, the fact of its having been written at such an early period, gives to it a peculiar value and entitles the author of it to the honor of being the first in Susquehanna County to advocate the temperance reform.

been persuaded to take such a step one year before." The first officers elected April 21, 1829,¹ were John Carpenter, president; Lee Richardson, vice-president; Samuel E. Kingsbury, secretary; Joab Tyler, Austin Jones, and James Greenwood, executive committee. The Harford ladies' society was organized in June following. On the 11th of August, 1829, the Gibson Society, auxiliary to the Susquehanna County society, was organized with more than thirty members. Wm. Abel, president; Arunah Tiffany, vice-president; S. S. Chamberlin, secretary; Moses Chamberlin, treasurer; and Alamanzer Griswold, auditor.

Though the Brooklyn young people's organization must have been completed about this time, by the encouragement of Rev. B. B., and though Choconut had certainly held temperance meetings previously, there is no mention of their officers until a year or two later. I. P. Foster, who left Montrose in 1829, was influential the same year in the organization of a society in Honesdale.

The principle upon which all these societies agreed was this: "We will not allow the use of *distilled spirits* in our families, nor provide them for persons in our employment; and in all suitable ways we will discountenance the use of them in the community."

Acting upon this, Benajah McKenzie, whose name appears among the first seven in the county pledged to its observance, determined, in the spring of 1829, to raise his dwelling without "the ardent." The builders, James Deans and Hezekiah Bullard, had enrolled their names with his, and so the raising was accomplished, though the help of a still unenlightened deacon had to be dispensed with, as he, finding out the new order of things, mounted his horse and left for home. But *his* conduct is less astonishing than that of Mr. McK.'s wife. It was long before she could be reconciled to his course relative to the banishment of liquors from the entertainments offered to their friends and visitors—it savored so of meanness! Time and again he labored to convince her of its propriety, but she could only weep for his disgrace, and shared her grief with Mrs. S. Bard; for her husband, too, alas! had joined the temperance society.

Somewhat later, Walter Foster wished to have a saw-mill raised; and his convictions would not permit him to ask any one's help without the understanding that nothing stronger than cider would be on the ground; consequently the work was but half finished the first day. "Stingy!" was thought and whispered, and Mr. F. had to come to Montrose for help. While stating his case he was overheard by A. H. Read, who, learning the *cause* of

¹ It is stated that the society was organized with fourteen members on the 22d of January previous.

his difficulty, volunteered to go down, and was afterwards present. It must be acknowledged the cider used with the whiskey that some obtained further down the Wyalusing wrought worse consequences than the latter would have done alone.

About this time merchants' clerks were uneasy; and one, Chester B., refused to sell goods for Mr. Mulford, if he must have anything to do in dealing out liquors.

When S. S. Mulford was ready, in 1830, to raise the large building, now the residence of his family, his brother-in-law—the late Judge Jessup—resolved the work should go on without distilled spirits, but in this he did not have the sympathy of the joiner; consequently a whiskey barrel was rolled into the barn, for, "Brother William wouldn't have it any nearer!" Mrs. M. had done her best to get rid of it altogether by substituting home-made beer and light gingerbread, of which all were invited to partake; but some of those engaged—afterwards noble temperance men—declined, and "sneaked off to the barn!"

The reports of the societies now began to come in.

The first annual meeting of the Susquehanna County Temperance Society was held at the court-house the 2d of February, 1830. The secretary reported five hundred members of the society and its auxiliaries—an encouraging account of one year's operations. John L. Kite and others addressed the large and respectable audience. Elder Davis Dimock was again elected president; Wm. Jessup, secretary; and Asa Dimock, Jr., treasurer. It does not appear that any change was made in the constitution, which still left open a wide door to those who wished to *withdraw* from the society, but provided no means for *turning out* any lawless member. One gentleman, at least, refused to have any connection with the society until this matter was remedied.

February court, 1830, made a move in the right direction by the following rules adopted for the regulation of its decisions in the granting of licenses for keeping public-houses:—

"No person shall be licensed to keep a public-house where the same is not necessary for the accommodation of the inhabitants and travelers.

"No person shall be licensed to keep a public-house whose principal object in obtaining such license is for the mere purpose of selling intoxicating liquors, without providing other accommodations suitable and necessary for travelers.

"No person shall be licensed to keep a public-house who is known to be *habitually or occasionally intemperate*.

"No person shall be licensed to keep a public-house who is known to permit gambling, drunkenness, or any other disorders in his house, or who is known to be in the habit of permitting the meeting of his neighbors or others at his house on Sundays for the purpose of drinking or other worldly business."

On the 25th of that month, the Bridgewater and Montrose Society was formed, auxiliary to the "American Society for the

promotion of Temperance." There was a large number present, and the merchants of the village manifested their approbation by closing their stores during the meeting. Addresses were delivered by the Rev. D. Deruelle, J. W. Raynsford, and Eld. D. Dimock, after which a constitution was adopted, and officers chosen: D. Post, president; E. Kingsbury, Jr., secretary.

By the 3d of April of that year, the Brooklyn Society had enrolled 104 members. Their constitution was "formed upon the principles of total abstinence." Dr. Enoch Mack and Rev. Messrs. Cook, Comfort, and Coryell made addresses at a meeting held at the Presbyterian meeting-house, April 3d.

The M. E. church, at a quarterly meeting held in the town of Springville, a little later, passed resolutions encouraging the formation of associations to discourage the use of ardent spirits except as a medicine.

June 2d, 1830, a meeting was held in a barn in Springville, on the farm owned by Daniel Spencer (whose distillery was the first in Springville), and a temperance pledge circulated, prohibiting the use of ardent spirits, and a society formed. The first officers were: Volney Avery, president; E. B. Slade, vice-president; Justus Knapp, secretary; Gideon Lyman, Thomas Lane, Jethro Hatch, Jonathan Nutt, Thomas Cassedy, Abiathar Tuttle, Daniel S. Avery, managers. The society met quarterly for a few years, but finally disbanded and passed away. Number of names—49 men, 126 women.

By the 12th of July, 1830, the Harford Society reported a membership of 41, which, with the 70 belonging to the female society, organized in June, 1829, made "111 individuals who have pledged themselves to abstinence except in cases of bodily infirmity." Their quarterly meeting, then held, was addressed by Rev. Messrs. Adams and Miller. "Resolved (by the ladies), not to associate with young men who are in the habit of drinking spirits."

The annual meeting of the Bridgewater and Montrose Society was held at the Baptist church, 25th October, 1830,¹ when it was

"Resolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in at the next meeting of the society a list of the families within our bounds with a view to the

¹ The writer does not understand why the annual meeting should have been held only eight months after the organization of the society, nor why it was made auxiliary to the "American Society," rather than to the Susquehanna County Society. It appears that at a meeting held Dec. 19th, 1831, it was resolved to amend the constitution so as to read, "Auxiliary to the Susquehanna County Society;" and that, instead of holding the annual meeting on Tuesday evening of September court, it should be on the first Monday in January; and that the Secretary report annually to the Secretary of the Susquehanna County Society. Officers for 1832: E. Kingsbury, Jr., president; Jeremiah Meacham and Hubbard Avery, vice-presidents; Wm. Foster, secretary; and Hyde Crocker, treasurer.

visiting of every family by the members of the society upon the subject of temperance.

"*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to procure a sufficient number of the best publications on the subject of temperance as soon as practicable.

"*Resolved*, That Dr. C. Fraser, Elder D. Dimock, Rev. D. Dernelle, D. Post, Wm. Jessup, and E. Kingsbury, Jr., Esqs., compose said committee."

Officers for the year following: Nehemiah Scott, president; J. W. Raynsford, Nathaniel Curtis, vice-presidents; Francis Perkins, treasurer; and John F. Deans, secretary.

In the fall of that year, 37 retailers of foreign merchandise and liquors within the county of Susquehanna are reported. All were below the fifth class, that is, their annual sales did not equal \$15,000.

The first meeting of a society known as the Choconut and Silver Lake Society, was held on the first Saturday of January, 1830.¹ To the constitution then adopted about 40 signatures were attached. Within a year, 91 were pledged to total abstinence. Gordon Bliss, as secretary, says, January 1st, 1831:—

"Your committee speak with confidence and pleasure of the beneficial results of the operations of our society. Within the sphere of its influence, the quantity of ardent spirits consumed during the last year is not more than one-fourth as great as in 1827. At one place where whiskey was once vended in the ratio of a barrel per week, the sale has very materially decreased. At another, where a barrel was generally retailed in three months, none is now kept for sale or use. On three or four of the largest farms in the neighborhood, where it was a custom to use ardent spirits plentifully in harvest time, not a drop was used during the last season. Mechanics discourage the use of it. Of eighteen within our limits, *fifteen* use none; and at a brickyard, where it was once thought indispensable, none was furnished during the last season—more and better brick were made than before.

"In this vicinity, there are about thirty families, consisting of at least a hundred and eighty persons, who may be said to entirely abstain from the use of ardent spirits. There are also about the same number who come near the principles and practices of the society—acknowledging its beneficial efforts, but who as yet withhold their names from our constitution. There is still another class consisting of about twenty families who regard temperance societies as dangerous combinations for the ultimate union of Church and State, and for destroying the liberties of our happy Republic."

Added to the influence of Beecher's Sermons about three years previous, the secretary speaks of the circulation of Kitteridge's, Humphrey's, Porter's, and Beman's Addresses, as awakening the public mind on the subject of temperance. Certainly the march forward in the meantime had been remarkably rapid.

Refuting the prejudice against "dangerous combinations," the editors of the 'Register,' in January, 1831, remark, respecting the Susquehanna County Society: "Constituted, as this society is, of members of various denominations of Christians—united

¹ So it is stated in the Annual Report, but the compiler is at a loss how to reconcile it with the fact that in March, 1829, there appeared in the 'Susquehanna Register,' two and a half columns of poetry, being an "address delivered before the Choconut and Silver Lake Society, for the promotion of temperance."

with many who are under no special religious obligation whatever—it is wholly impossible that its benevolent design should be perverted to any sectarian or selfish purpose.”

Early in 1831, a temperance society was formed in Lawsville, enrolling about 40 members. Its officers for the first year were Nehemiah Park, president; Ebenezer Leighton, vice-president; Anson Smith, secretary; and Henry B. Smith, treasurer.

To show to what extent, in 1832, the interest of the public was excited in behalf of temperance, and how thoroughly in earnest its promoters were, a list of the township committees, whose duty it was to present the constitution of the Susquehanna County Society to every person therein, is here given:—

Auburn.—Edward Dawson, Daniel Cooley.

Bridgewater.—James Deans, Hubbard Avery, J. W. Hill, Nathaniel Curtis, N. Scott, J. Meacham.

Brooklyn.—Edward L. Gere, Thomas Garland, Alfred Mack.

Choconut.—Chauncey Wright, John Mann, Eben Griswold.

Clifford.—Earl Wheeler, Dr. Wm. Terbell, B. P. Bailey.

Great Bend.—P. Catlin, Daniel Lyon, John McKinney.

Gibson.—Wm. Abel, Dr. C. Tyler, Dr. Wm. Pride.

Harmony.—John Comfort, Jessie Lane.

Herrick.—Walter Lyon, Jabez Tyler.

Harford.—Joab Tyler, M. Oakley, Enos Thatcher.

Jackson.—H. Bushnell, Daniel Tingley, Simeon Tucker.

Lawsville.—Nehemiah Park, Lyman Smith, H. B. Smith.

Lenox.—Henry Doud.

Middletown.—J. A. Birchard, Jr., O. Mott, Jr.

Montrose.—D. Dimock, Jr., Wm Foster, A. L. Post.

New Milford.—Seth Mitchell, J. B. Bill, Col. Job Tyler.

Rush.—Robert Griffis.

Silver Lake.—Lewis Chamberlin, Edward White, Edwin Bliss.

Springville.—Dr. J. Hatch, Jairus Day, Daniel B. Avery.

Wm. Jessup was appointed to represent this society at the annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Society.

Of the *training* days, May 29th and 30th, of the same year, the ‘Volunteer’ reported thus: “On neither of those days was there to be seen any drunkenness, rioting, or disorderly conduct whatever.”

The Young Men’s Society of Montrose and vicinity, was organized June 9, 1832.

On motion of R. B. Gregory, it was

Resolved, That the following gentlemen be officers for the ensuing year, viz., Albert L. Post, president; George Williston, and Ezra S. Park, vice-presidents; F. M. Williams, secretary; H. J. Webb, treasurer; Isaac Fuller, D. C. Warner, and A. G. Dimock, committee of vigilance.

The Montrose Temperance Hotel is announced in September,

Benjamin Sayre, proprietor; who states: "A variety of wholesome and refreshing drinks will be kept as a substitute for ardent spirits." About the time he signed the pledge, in 1829, persons could be accommodated at his restaurant with pies, oysters, etc., and "a cup of hot coffee;" and though his house had then been recently fitted up for the use of the public, no mention was made of liquors for their refreshment.

Benjamin Taylor, of Great Bend, notifies the public that no ardent spirits will be sold at his house after the 1st of January, 1833.

At the meeting of the County Society the preceding January, on motion of O. Collins, it was

"*Resolved*, That duty to the public demands from the patriot, the moralist, the philanthropist, and the Christian, that, *all other things being equal*, he should promote the cause of temperance by patronizing those who cease to manufacture, vend, or use ardent spirits, in their common and usual forms."

At the next annual meeting, February 4, 1833, it was stated that the adoption of this resolution being by many members deemed inexpedient, the society without expressing any opinion as to the principle therein contained, deemed it best to rescind the same. The Choconut and Silver Lake Society approved the resolution.

The American Temperance Society had recommended through the State Society, that on the 26th of February, 1833, meetings of temperance societies should be held simultaneously in all the cities, towns, and villages of the United States; it was recommended by the Susquehanna County Society, that the township societies hold meetings in accordance with this action of the American Society (composed of twenty-one State societies).

March 4, 1833, the Young Men's Society became a county affair: C. F. Read, secretary, in place of F. M. Williams, resigned.

In 1833, the Second Annual Report of the Choconut and Silver Lake Society (Almerin Turner, president; Lewis Chamberlin, secretary), stated that "nine-tenths of the hay and grain that was cut and secured within the limits of the society, the summer past, was done without the aid of ardent spirits; and three-fourths of the mechanics perform their business without using it themselves or furnishing it to their workmen."

April 29, 1833, the Susquehanna County Society and the Young Men's Society, met in conjunction at the court-house, and their united thanks were offered to the Grand Jury for the presentment that day made, in which "the Jury respectfully suggest to the court the policy of suppressing rather than increasing the present number of tavern licenses;" and in which they "contemplate with great satisfaction and deep personal interest the laudable efforts in progress by the patriotic citizens of this county, for the suppression of the prolific and destructive vice of intemperance.

JAMES NEWMAN, *Foreman*."

Hon. D. Dimock, Rev. S. Marks, John Mann, and Wm. Jessup, were appointed delegates to represent both societies in the State Convention the following May, at Philadelphia.

On Thursday evening of the same week, the Young Men's Society elected officers for the ensuing year, making C. L. Ward, president, and Geo. Williston and Ezra S. Park, vice-presidents.

At a meeting in Lawsville, at the Presbyterian meeting-house, May 24, the constitution of a Young People's Society was adopted and signed. Wm. Greene was elected president; S. Park, Jr., and J. Smith, vice-presidents; and N. Leighton, secretary. The following resolution was unanimously passed:—

“*Resolved*, That we highly approve of the formation of the Young Men's County Temperance Society, but do not deem it expedient to become auxiliary thereto, so long as its constitution precludes *young ladies* from membership.”

Two years before this, in an address delivered by F. Lusk, A.B., before the Young People's Society, Binghamton, N. Y., he said:—

“Respecting the practicability of soliciting the names of females to our subscription, the only ground of objection, wearing the least shadow of plausibility, consists in the suggestion that by publicly obligating themselves ‘to abstain from the use of distilled spirits,’ they are in danger of impairing the *usual confidence* in their acknowledged purity and firmness of character.” But he added: “Rather than dampen their zeal in this worthy cause, or diminish their solicitude for a ruder sex, we would heartily solicit their signified approbation, too well convinced of their deep and direct interest in the success of this important undertaking, to reject their kindly proffered assistance.”

In May, 1833, the Bridgewater and Montrose Young Men's Society was organized. D. A. Lathrop was elected president; George V. Bentley and Philander Lines, vice-presidents; J. H. Dimock, secretary; Wm. J. Turrell, treasurer; Chapman Baldwin, James Stout, Elias West, Jr., examining committee. Harris W. Patrick and Silas Perkins were afterwards added to this committee for the purpose of obtaining the names of all the young men in the township and borough, to present them to the society at the next annual meeting. D. Wilmot, Philip Fraser, Benj. Case, and H. W. Patrick were invited to speak.

During the first six months of 1834, a newspaper controversy was maintained with much spirit, respecting the question, *Is the making, vending, and using of ardent spirits a moral evil?* Perhaps it is not too much to say that from this, in part, arose the distinction afterwards drawn between temperance and total abstinence men. The question was originally brought up Dec. 1833, at a quarterly meeting of the County Temperance Society on motion of Wm. Jessup, seconded by J. W. Raynsford, and we find it still open to discussion in November, 1835. At the annual meeting of the Bridgewater and Montrose Young Men's

Society, the young ladies within the bounds of the society were invited to subscribe their names to the constitution.

In the programme of a 4th of July dinner that year, it was stated that "light wines, lemonade, etc., will be furnished, but ardent spirits wholly excluded from the table."

Early in 1835, the ladies of Montrose were solicited to write essays on the subject. Mrs. L. C. Searle and Miss Lucretia Loomis, each obtained a ten dollar prize.

At the annual meeting of the Harford Society, February 26, 1835, statistics were given, showing that, attached to the constitution of the three societies in that town, were 312 names—86 added the previous year.

October 20, 1835, the Bridgewater and Montrose Young Men's Society question thus: "Would it be policy for this society to adopt the principle of total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks?"

New Milford, in the mean time, had been active, holding meetings at Haydenville, Moxley's school-house, and even at the Episcopal church.

In 1836, the rise of abolitionism occasioned apparently a lull in the excitement on the subject of temperance; though a proposition was broached to sustain in Montrose a periodical devoted to its interests, it was never established.

REVIEW OF SOCIETIES FOR FIVE YEARS.

Susquehanna County Society, organized December 1, 1828.

Harford Society, April, 1829.

Harford Ladies' Society, June, 1829.

Brooklyn Society, 1829.

Gibson Society, organized August, 1829.

Choconut Society, January, 1830.

Bridgewater and Montrose Society, February, 1830.

Springville Society, June, 1830.

Lawsville Society, early in 1831.

Susquehanna County Society, auxiliary to State Society, January, 1832.

Young Men's Temperance Society, June, 1832.

Middletown Society, 1832.

Young Men's Society—a county affair—March, 1833.

Lawsville, "don't become auxiliary *for cause*," May, 1833.

New Milford Society, May, 1833.

Bridgewater and Montrose Young Men's Society, May, 1833.

Young Men's Society (independent), Harford, September, 1834.

In May, 1839, a meeting was held at the court-house, in favor of the proposition before the Legislature, submitting to the people the decision in regard to the sale of intoxicating drinks; Joab Tyler, chairman.

In July following, great interest was excited in the temperance cause, by a series of lectures from Rev. Thomas P. Hunt, of Wilkes-Barre.

Early in 1840, the court judges at an adjourned session, took

up the subject of licensing taverns. All manifested a disposition to go to the extent of the law in restraining tippling. One of them stated, "No man may expect to obtain a license who knowingly sells a glass of grog to a person who is in the habit of getting intoxicated."

Temperance meetings were regularly maintained.

Early in 1842, a great impetus was given to them by the rise of the "Washingtonians," or reformed inebriates, and the Sons of Temperance.

For the last fifteen or twenty years, special activity in the temperance cause has been mostly confined to the Good Templars. There have been forty lodges in the county, but at present (April, 1872) there are only twenty-five.

Susquehanna County Good Templars' Lodges.

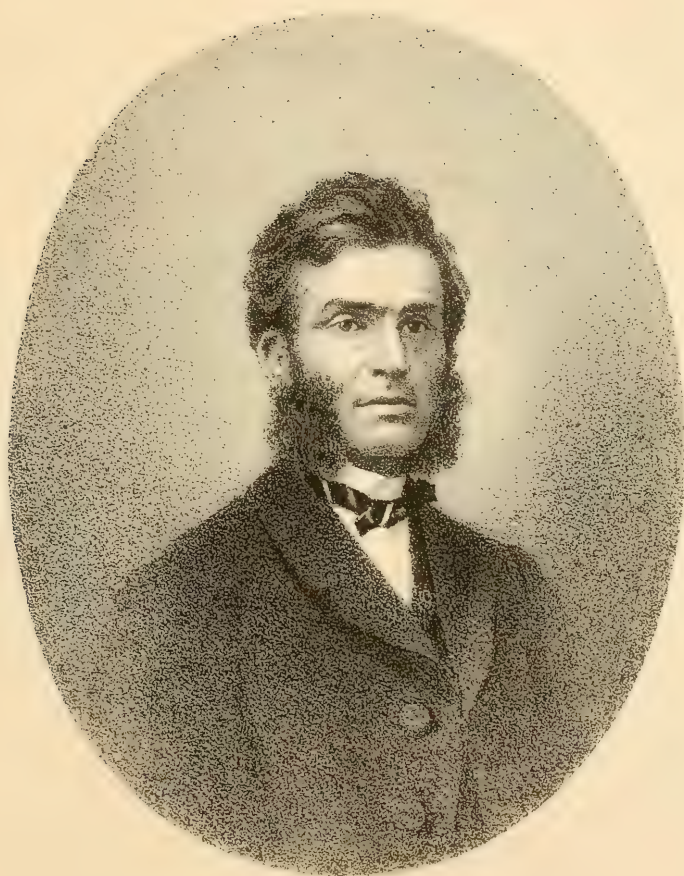
No. 4. Great Bend.	No. 549. Glenwood.
" 92. Crescent, New Milford.	" 551. Dundaff.
" 93. Brooklyn.	" 555. Lathrop, Hop Bottom.
" 97. Regulator, North Jackson.	" 556. South Harford, Harford.
" 439. Lanesboro'.	" 557. Lenoxville.
" 441. Thomson Center, Thomson.	" 565. Silver Creek, Lawsville Center.
" 443. South Gibson.	" 568. Reform, New Milford.
" 444. Harford.	" 592. East Bridgewater.
" 456. Susquehanna Depot.	" 618. Cambrian, Uniondale.
" 460. No Compromise, Gibson.	" 632. City, Dundaff.
" 463. Montrose.	" 720. Earnest, West Lenox.
" 499. Olive Leaf, Harford.	" 763. Brookdale.
" 512. Brackney.	

Political action on the subject is now commanding attention

HON. SIMEON B. CHASE

Was born at Gibson, Susquehanna County, April 18, 1828, and has always resided in this county. By teaching school in winter to earn the means, and studying industriously at all times, he prepared himself to enter Hamilton College, New York, where he graduated with honors in 1851. The expenses of his collegiate course were partially defrayed by his acting as deputy prothonotary. Industrious and thrifty, he has paddled his own canoe, as most of our best men have done. He studied law, and was admitted to the bar in 1852; and for four years, commencing with 1851, he edited and published the 'Montrose Democrat' in connection with E. B. Chase.

Politically, he acted with the Democratic party until 1856, when he united in the formation of the Republican party, of which he became a leading and influential member. He was chairman of the State Convention of 1856, which nominated David Wilmot for Governor, and was chairman of committee on nominations in one convention since. In the same year he was elected a member of the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania, and re-elected in 1857, '58, and '59. Here he took a high rank, occupying the position of chairman of the ways and means, judiciary, and other important committees. He was a prominent candidate for speaker one term, and though not elected, he occupied the speaker's chair most of the session, on account of the protracted illness of the speaker elect. Thoroughly familiar with parliamentary law, self-possessed, firm, an excellent speaker, and of commanding and agreeable address, he makes a good presiding officer.



Yours truly
A. B. Chase
u

He continued the practice of law in addition to his public duties until August, 1868, when he was employed by the Good Templars to give his entire time to the temperance work.

He has worked earnestly with every organization formed to resist the increase of intemperance, and more especially with the Sons of Temperance, from 1850 till 1853, and with the Good Templars since that time.

He has been presiding officer of either State or National lodges almost continuously, from 1856 till the present time, sixteen years, and has attended every session of the R. W. G. L. of North America, over which he presided for five consecutive years. He is now the honored W. C. T. of Pennsylvania, a position he has filled for seven years with ability and dignity.

He is a polished writer, and has written much that has exerted an influence at the time and since.

He has written more or less on the rituals, platforms, etc., of the order, largely shaping the policy and purposes of the Good Templars of Pennsylvania and the Union.

He has resided at Great Bend for the last twenty years.

CHAPTER XLIV.

SECRET SOCIETIES AND THE CENSUS.

MASONRY IN SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY.

THE following is a list of the lodges, chapters, and commanderies:—

1. A masonic lodge in Clifford was installed January 24, 1811. Its officers were David Taylor, Jonathan Wilber, Joseph Potter, Oliver Granger, and Abel Kent. The sermon on the occasion was preached by Rev. E. Kingsbury.

2. Nothing further is known of this lodge, but it is possible, that as Gibson was then a part of Clifford, the "NORTH STAR" Lodge, No. 119, installed at Gibson in 1816, may have superseded the former.

3. The "RISING SUN" Lodge, No. 149, in Montrose, was chartered December 2, 1816; Jonah Brewster, W. M.; Perez Perkins, S. W.; Wm. C. Turrell, J. W. B. T. Case, Isaac Post, and George Clagget formed a committee in this lodge, and at its installation Eld. Davis Dimock preached a sermon. Mason Denison, and Hiram Finch were later officers. It closed its working in the year 1825. [There is incidental mention of "Franklin" Lodge in the year 1824, as not remote; but its location is not given.]

4. The "EVENING STAR" Lodge, No. 206, in Middletown (at Bostwick's—now in Forest Lake), was chartered September 5, 1825; Wm. C. Turrell, W. M.; Seth Taylor, S. W.; Jonathan C. Sherman, J. W. It ceased its work in 1827.

5. The "MORNING DAWN" Lodge, No. 207, in Brooklyn, was chartered June 5, 1826; Ebenezer Gere, W. M.; Charles R. Marsh, S. W.; Joseph Lines, J. W. Closed in 1827.

6. "MONTROSE" Lodge, No. 213, in Montrose, was chartered September 23, 1827; Jonah Brewster, W. M.; James W. Hill, S. W.; Daniel Lathrop, J. W. Closed in 1828.

7. "WARREN" Lodge, No. 240, in Montrose, was chartered June 4, 1849;

Robert C. Simpson, W. M.; Ezra S. Park, S. W.; James W. Chapman, J. W.

8. "GREAT BEND" Lodge, No. 338, at Great Bend Borough. Chartered March, 1860; John H. Dusenbury, W. M.; R. T. Stephens, S. W.; George W. Orange, J. W.

9. A lodge was installed at Clifford three or four years ago; Ezra Lewis, Dr. Gardner, and M. C. Stewart, officers.

10. "CANAWACTA" Lodge, No. 360, at Susquehanna Depot. Chartered December 18, 1865; Wm. M. Post, W. M.; George N. Brown, S. W.; H. P. Moody, J. W.

11. "HARFORD" Lodge, No. 445, is held in Harford.

12. A lodge is also at work, it is believed, in New Milford.

1. WARREN CHAPTER, No. 180, at Montrose, was chartered February 19, 1855; George L. Stone, H. P.; Braton Richardson, K.; Samuel S. Benjamin, Scribe.

2. GREAT BEND H. R. A. CHAPTER, No. 210, at Great Bend. Chartered May, 1866; J. H. Dusenbury, J. P.; C. P. Bigelow, M. D., K.; T. D. Hays, Scribe.

1. GREAT BEND COMMANDERY, No. 27, at Great Bend. Chartered June, 1867; J. H. Dusenbury, Commander; T. D. Hays, General; G. F. Thompson, Cap. Gen.

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS.

Subordinate Lodges.

MONTROSE,	No. 151.	Instituted at Montrose, March, 1846.	Present members	150
CANAWACTA,	" 207.	" New Milford, Dec. 1847.	Surrendered charter.	
BROOKLYN,	" 313.	" Brooklyn, July, 1848.	Present members	60
STARUCCA,	" 423.	" Susquehanna Depot.	Present members	105
FRIENDSVILLE,	" 471.	" Friendsville.	Surrendered charter.	
HURON,	" 483.	" Jackson.		65
LIVE OAK,	" 635.	" Harford.		30
				<hr/>
				Total, 410

ROBERT WALLACE,
Susquehanna Depot, D. D. Grand Master.

Encampments.

ST. JOHN,	No. 50.	Instituted at Montrose, Febr'y, 1847.	Present members	42
CANAWACTA,	" 225.	" Susq. Depot, Mar. 1872.	Present members	38
				<hr/>
				Total, 80

C. C. HALSEY,
Montrose, D. D. Grand Patriarch.

Rebekah Lodge.

MARY, No. 7. Instituted at Montrose, 1869.

Amount paid for relief for year ending April 1, 1872 \$500

Amount of funds on hand April 1, 1872 \$4000

The GRAND FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY of 1820-22, or longer. (The Sons of Temperance and Good Templars are elsewhere noticed.)

The GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC, Post 41, at Montrose; 53, at Susquehanna Depot; 96, at Great Bend; and 143, at Brooklyn.

There is a *Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers* at Susquehanna Depot.

THE CENSUS.

In 1810, Susquehanna County, although erected by act of legislature, was still officially connected with Luzerne; and the population of several of the townships included those of both counties, as Nicholson, Clifford, Braintrim, Rush, and Bridgewater. The last-named, however, was almost entirely above the line of division, and its population 1418; that of Willingborough, 351; Harmony, 80; Lawsville, 169; New Milford, 178. The census was taken by Isaac A. Chapman.

Population in 1820. (Taken by BELA JONES.)

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Auburn	113	93	306
Bridgewater	1027	956	1983
Choconut	257	249	506
Clifford	349	332	681
Gibson	455	455	910
Great Bend	289	236	525
Harford	321	319	640
Harmony	80	93	173
Jackson	128	137	265
Lawsville	229	237	466
Lenox	110	104	214
Middletown	276	253	531
New Milford	324	286	610
Rush	134	108	242
Silver Lake	258	198	456
Springville	385	326	711
Waterford	401	378	779
<hr/>			
Total whites	5145	4762	9905
Total blacks			51
<hr/>			
Total number inhabitants			9958

Of the above there were the following classifications: farmers, 1864; mechanics, 261; merchants, 23; foreigners not naturalized, 309.

There were in the county: sheep, 12,259; horses, 857; oxen, 1358; cows, 2586; grist-mills, 29; saw-mills, 62; fulling-mills, 7; carding machines, 8; tanneries, 5; grain distilleries, 12.

There was manufactured in the county during the year ending August 1, 1820: of woolen cloth, 37,797 yards; of linen cloth, 52,762 yards.

There was in the county (1820), of improved lands, 33,780 acres; of unimproved lands, 171,831 acres; of unseated lands, 224,935 acres. Total acres in county, 430,546 acres.

The valuation of taxable property as collected from assessment rolls of 1821, amounted to \$1,007,698. Number of taxables, 1821, 2061.

Population in 1830.

Auburn	516	Herrick	468
Borough of Dundaff	298	Jackson	641
Borough of Montrose	415	Lawsville	878
Bridgewater ¹	2450	Lenox	546
Brooklyn ²	1350	Middletown	683
Choconut	780	New Milford	1000
Clifford	866	Rush	643
Gibson	1081	Silver Lake	516
Great Bend	797	Springville ³	1514
Harford	999		
Harmony	341	Total	16,782

[Official total, 16,787.]

Population in 1840. (Taken by J. W. CHAPMAN.)

Auburn	1113	Herrick	629
Bridgewater	2082	Jackson	754
Brooklyn	1474	Liberty	554
Clifford	1068	Lenox	800
Choconut	952	Middletown	589
Dimock	998	Montrose	632
Dundaff	304	New Milford	1148
Franklin	515	Rush	1039
Forest Lake	606	Springville	926
Great Bend	859	Silver Lake	907
Gibson	1219	Thomson	325
Harford	1179		
Harmony	523		21,195

Population in 1850.

Auburn	1837	Herrick	824
Apolacon	748	Jackson	978
Bridgewater	1548	Jessup	840
Brooklyn	1082	Lathrop	510
Choconut	894	Lenox	1443
Clifford	1647	Liberty	833
Dimock	1056	Middletown	1140
Dundaff	296	Montrose	917
Forest Lake	780	New Milford township	1433
Friendsville	185	Rush	1159
Franklin	703	Silver Lake	1213
Gibson	1459	Springville	1148
Great Bend township	1150	Thomson	509
Harford	1258		
Harmony	1578		29,168

[This is in excess of the official total by 480.]

The census of 1860 was taken by A. J. Garretson; of 1870, by James Howe, Philo Burritt, David Summers, Horace A. Deans, and C. E. Davis:—

¹ Before the erection of Forest Lake and Jessup.² " " " Lathrop.³ " " " Dimock.

Comparison of Population.

	1860.	1870.		1860.	1870.
Apolacon	910	528	Jessup	867	804
Little Meadows	2164	133	Lathrop	876	983
Auburn	500	2006	Lenox	1791	1751
Ararat	1785	771	Liberty	995	1030
Bridgewater	1213	1459	Middletown	923	871
Brooklyn	1068	1128	Montrose	1268	1463
Chocanut	1624	939	New Milford township	1515	1647
Clifford	245	1532	“ borough	414	600
Dundaff	1181	187	Oakland	522	1106
Dimock	202	1124	Susquehanna Depot . .	2080	2729
Friendsville	1125	223	Rush	1471	1418
Forest Lake	805	995	Silver Lake	1313	1079
Franklin	1439	849	Springville	1346	1424
Gibson	1431	1368	Thomson	558	701
Great Bend township	1976	1431			
“ borough		855		36,714	38,066
Harford	1441	1595			36,714
Harmony	1072	1212			
Herrick	904	950	Gains		1,352
Jackson	1121	1175			

By comparing this result with the official totals, a discrepancy appears:—

For 1860, 36,267. For 1870, 37,523. Gains, 1256. Difference, 96.

Great Bend and Little Meadows boroughs were not enumerated separately in 1860, and part of Bridgewater has been added to Montrose since that date, so that the change in those districts is not exactly known.

“The war and western migration depleted some of our best townships. Every western township lost heavily; and all the southern, excepting Lathrop and Springville, also Gibson, Clifford, and Dundaff, on the east, lost in population. But the northeastern portion of the county—those districts, notably, which are threaded by the railroads, or so near as to feel their business influences—all exhibited a healthy growth. New Milford township and borough gained 318, Great Bend 310, and the three districts into which old Harmony is divided (viz., Harmony, Susquehanna Depot, and Oakland), show an increase of 1373.

“The lesson is a telling one in urging the importance of the railway through the centre of the county, and also of one or more on our western borders. The increase in wealth and business accommodations is equal to that of the population.”

Progress by Decades.

Population in 1820	9,960	Gains.
“ 1830	16,787	6827
“ 1840	21,195	4408
“ 1850	28,688	7493
“ 1860	36,267	7579
“ 1870	37,523	1256

Total in fifty years, 27,563—or about 550 per year.

Susquehanna County is the twenty fourth in the State in point of population. There are forty-two counties with a smaller population. The valuation of personal property in the county is \$2,343,273 60, and the number of taxables is 9532. The assessment of tax amounts to \$5987 06, which, by act of assembly, approved April 16th, 1868, is reduced fifty per cent. The half mill tax of May, 1861, is \$1169 83. The county is in the tenth military division, and is associated with Wayne in that division. There is no organization of militia in the district. The total number of men subject to military duty from the county is 511— from the division, 2272.

In 1870, the native population was 33,519; foreign born residents, 4004. Of the latter, 84 were born in British America; 665 in England and Wales; 2879 in Ireland; 97 in Scotland; 215 in Germany; 14 in France; 21 in Sweden and Norway; 4 in Switzerland; 10 in Holland; 2 in Italy.

There were also 9284, one or both of whose parents were foreign.

Prior to 1820, the few colored persons (two or three of whom were slaves), in this section were numbered, of course, in Luzerne County.

In 1820, there were fifty in Susquehanna County; in 1830, seventy-three; in 1840, ninety-seven; in 1850, one hundred and sixty; in 1860, two hundred and nine; in 1870, two hundred and forty-nine.

In 1850, there were seventeen more colored persons in Montrose than in all the rest of the county; in 1860, twenty-seven more; and in 1870, ninety-one more.

In 1850, they were found in seventeen townships and boroughs; in 1860 and 1870, in but fifteen.

There are twenty-one persons who are deaf and dumb—twelve males and nine females; the oldest is over fifty and under fifty-five years of age. Three males and one female are in the Deaf and Dumb Asylum at Philadelphia.

The following figures are taken from the Annual Report of the Surveyor-General of Pennsylvania for the year 1871:—

<i>Counties.</i>	<i>Population.</i>	<i>Square miles.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>
Susquehanna	37,523	797	510,080
Bradford	53,204	1174	751,360
Luzerne	160,755	1400	896,000
Wayne	33,118	720	460,800
Wyoming	14,585	409	261,760

APPENDIX.

JOE SMITH, THE MORMON PROPHET.

"A madman, or a fool, hath ever set the world agog."

It is a fact, of which we are not particularly proud, that Susquehanna County harbored such a madman as Joe Smith at the period when he was engaged in the compilation, or, rather, the translation, of the Book of Mormon. But to the fact itself there are living witnesses, with some of whom the writer has conversed.

There appears to be some uncertainty as to the time of his arrival in Harmony (now Oakland), but it is certain he was here in 1825 and later; and, in 1829, his operations here were finished, and he had left the county.

In 1830 the Book of Mormon was published, the requisite funds being furnished, it is said, by Martin Harris, a coadjutor of Smith during its translation, and who had sold his farm for the purpose, and reduced his family to straits in consequence. His wife and daughters were greatly exasperated at his course, but he appeared to have been a sincere believer, firmly convinced of the truth of Mormonism. (Mrs. David Lyons, of Lanesboro, once heard Joe's wife speak of Mrs. Harris' complaints to her of the destitution of the family.)

Mr. J. B. Buck narrates the following:—

"Joe Smith was here lumbering soon after my marriage, which was in 1818, some years before he took to 'peeping,' and before diggings were commenced under his direction. These were ideas he gained later. The stone which he afterwards used was then in the possession of Jack Belcher, of Gibson, who obtained it while at Salina, N. Y., engaged in drawing salt. Belcher bought it because it was said to be 'a seeing stone.' I have often seen it. It was a green stone, with brown, irregular spots on it. It was a little longer than a goose's egg, and about the same thickness. When he brought it home and covered it with a hat, Belcher's little boy was one of the first to look into the hat, and as he did so he said he saw a candle. The second time he looked in he exclaimed, 'I've found my hatchet!'—(it had been lost two years)—and immediately ran for it to the spot shown him through the stone, and *it was there*. The boy was soon beset by neighbors far and near to reveal to them hidden things, and he succeeded marvellously. Even the wanderings of a lost child were traced by him—the distracted parents coming to him *three* times for directions, and in each case finding signs that the child had been in the places he designated, but at last it was found starved to death. Joe Smith, conceiving the idea of making a fortune through a similar process of 'seeing,' bought the stone of Belcher and then began his operations in directing where hidden treasures could be found. His first diggings were near Capt. Buck's saw-mill, at Red Rock; but, because his followers broke the rule of *silence*, 'the enchantment removed the deposits.'"

The first reference in the county papers to Joe's influence appears to have been in November, 1831, and December, 1832, when "two or three wretched zealots of Mormonism created much excitement, and made some proselytes in a remote district on the borders of this county and Luzerne." The new converts then purposed removing to "the promised land," near Painesville, Ohio.

In December, 1833, Isaac Hale, of Harmony, addressed a letter to D. P. Hurlburt, in the State of Ohio, in reply to his application for "a history of facts

relating to the character of Joseph Smith, Jr., author of the Book of Mormon, called by some the Golden Bible." The Mormons pronounced the letter a *forgery*, and said that Isaac Hale was blind, and could not write his name. This was followed by a request from another gentleman of Ohio, that Mr. Hale would assist in laying open Mormonism to the world, by drawing up a full narrative of the transactions wherein Smith, Jr., was concerned, and attesting the same before a magistrate. The result is here given:—

Statement of Isaac Hale. Affirmed to and subscribed before Chas. Dimon, J. P., March 20, 1834. The good character of Isaac Hale was attested to the following day by Judges Wm. Thomson and D. Dimock.

"I first became acquainted with Joseph Smith, Jr., in November, 1825. He was at that time in the employ of a set of men who were called 'money-diggers,' and his occupation was that of seeing, or pretending to see, by means of a stone placed in his hat, and his hat closed over his face. In this way he pretended to discover minerals and hidden treasure. His appearance at this time was that of a careless young man, not very well educated, and very saucy and insolent to his father. Smith and his father, with several other money-diggers, boarded at my house while they were employed in digging for a mine that they supposed had been opened and worked by the Spaniards many years since. Young Smith gave the money-diggers great encouragement at first, but, when they had arrived in digging to near the place where he had stated an immense treasure would be found, he said the enchantment was so powerful that he could not see. They then became discouraged, and soon after dispersed. This took place about the 17th of November, 1825.

"After these occurrences, young Smith made several visits at my house, and at length asked my consent to his marrying my daughter Emma. This I refused, and gave him my reasons for so doing; some of which were, that he was a stranger, and followed a business that I could not approve; he then left the place. Not long after this he returned, and, while I was absent from home, carried off my daughter into the State of New York, where they were married (February, 1826), without my approbation or consent. After they had arrived at Palmyra, N. Y., Emma wrote to me inquiring whether she could have her property, consisting of clothing, furniture, cows, etc. I replied that her property was safe and at her disposal. In a short time they returned, and subsequently came to the conclusion that they would move out and reside upon a place near my residence. Smith stated to me that he had given up what he called 'glass-looking,' and that he expected and was willing to work hard for a living. He made arrangements with my son, Alva Hale, to go to Palmyra, and move his (Smith's) furniture, etc., to this place. He then returned to Palmyra, and soon after Alva, agreeably to the arrangement, went up and returned with Smith and his family.

"Soon after this I was informed they had brought a wonderful book of plates down with them. I was shown a box in which it was said they were contained, which had to all appearances been used as a glass box of the common-sized window glass. I was allowed to feel the weight of the box, and they gave me to understand that the book of plates was then in the box, into which, however, I was not allowed to look. I inquired of Joseph Smith, Jr., who was to be the first who would be allowed to see the book of plates? He said it was a young child. After this I became dissatisfied, and informed him that if there was anything in my house of that description which I could not be allowed to see, he must take it away; if he did not, I was determined to see it. After that the plates were said to be hid in the woods.

"About this time Martin Harris made his appearance upon the stage; and Smith began to interpret the characters and hieroglyphics which he said were engraven upon the plates, while Harris wrote down the interpretation. . . . I told them, then, that I considered the whole of it a delusion, and advised them to abandon it. The manner in which he pretended to read and interpret was the same as when he looked for the money-diggers, with the stone in his hat, and his hat over his face, while the book of plates was at the same time hid in the woods.

"After this Martin Harris went away, and Oliver Cowdry came and wrote for Smith while he interpreted as above described. This is the same Oliver Cowdry whose name may be found in the Book of Mormon. Cowdry continued a scribe for Smith until the Book of Mormon was completed, as I supposed and understood.

"Joseph Smith, Jr., resided near me for some time after this, and I had a good opportunity of becoming acquainted with him, and somewhat acquainted with his associates, and I conscientiously believe, from the facts I have detailed, and from many other circumstances which I do not deem it necessary to relate, that the whole 'Book of Mormon' (so called) is a silly fabrication of falsehood and wickedness, got up for speculation, and with a design to dupe the credulous and unwary, and in order that its fabricators might live upon the spoils of those who swallowed the deception.

"ISAAC HALE."

Alva Hale, son of Isaac, stated that Joseph Smith, Jr., told him that "his (Smith's) gift in seeing with a stone and hat, was a gift from God;" but also states, that "Smith told him, at another time, that this *peeping* was all d——d nonsense. He (Smith) was deceived himself, but did not intend to deceive others; that he intended to quit the business (of *peeping*) and labor for his livelihood."

Hezekiah McKune stated that, "in conversation with Joseph Smith, Jr., he (Smith) said he was nearly equal to Jesus Christ; that he was a prophet sent by God to bring in the Jews, and that he was the greatest prophet that had ever arisen."

Joshua McKune stated that he was "acquainted with Joseph Smith, Jr., and Martin Harris, during their residence in Harmony, Pa., and knew them to be artful seducers."

Levi Lewis stated that "he had been acquainted with Joseph Smith, Jr., and Martin Harris, and that he has heard them both say adultery was no crime. . . . With regard to the plates Smith said, 'God had deceived him—which was the reason he (Smith) did not show the plates.'"

Nathaniel C. Lewis stated he "has always resided in the same neighborhood with Isaac Hale, and knows him to be a man of truth and good judgment. He further states that he has been acquainted with Joseph Smith, Jr., and Martin Harris, and knows them to be lying impostors."

Sophia Lewis testifies that she "has frequently heard Smith use profane language. Has heard him say the book of plates could not be opened under penalty of death by any other person but his first-born, which was to be a male."

"We certify that we have long been acquainted with Joshua McKune, Hezekiah McKune, Alva Hale, Levi Lewis, Nathaniel C. Lewis, and Sophia Lewis [the individuals furnishing the several statements above referred to], and that they are all persons of good moral character, and undoubted truth and veracity.

"ABRAHAM DU BOIS, *J. Peace.*

"JASON WILSON, *Postmaster.*

"HERBERT LEACH.

"GREAT BEND, SUSQUEHANNA Co., PA., March 20, 1834."

Many stories respecting Joe Smith are still current in the localities he frequented here:—

"A straggling Indian, who was passing up the Susquehanna, had told of buried treasure. Joseph, hearing of this, hunted up the Indian, and induced him to reveal the place where it was buried. The Indian told him that a point, a certain number of paces due north from the highest point of Turkey Hill, on the opposite side of the Susquehanna River, was the place. Joseph now looked about for some man of means to engage in the enterprise. He induced a well-to-do farmer by the name of Harper, of Harpersville, N. Y., to go in with him.

¹ The child was a girl, and was buried in the graveyard on J. McKune's farm.

They commenced digging on what is now the farm of Jacob I. Skinner, in Oakland township. After digging a great hole, that is still to be seen, Harper got discouraged, and was about abandoning the enterprise. Joseph now declared to Harper that there was an *enchantment* about the place that was removing the treasure farther off; that Harper must get a perfectly *white dog*,¹ and sprinkle his blood over the ground, and that would prevent the enchantment from removing the treasure. Search was made all over the country, but no perfectly white dog could be found. Joseph said he thought a *white sheep* would do as well. A sheep was killed, and his blood sprinkled as directed. The digging was then resumed by Harper. After spending \$2000 he utterly refused to go any further. Joseph now said that the enchantment had removed all the treasure; that the Almighty was displeased with them for attempting to palm off on Him a white sheep for a white dog, and had allowed the enchantment to remove the treasure. He would sit for hours looking into his hat at the *round colored stone*, and tell of seeing things far away and supernatural. At times he was melancholy and sedate, as often hilarious and mirthful; an imaginative enthusiast, constitutionally opposed to work, and a general favorite with the ladies.

"Smith early put on the airs of a prophet, and was in the habit of 'blessing' his neighbors' crops for a small consideration. On one occasion a neighbor had a piece of corn planted rather late, and on a moist piece of ground, and, feeling a little doubtful about its ripening, got Smith to bless it. It happened that that was the only piece of corn killed by the frost in the neighborhood. When the prophet's attention was called to the matter, he got out of the difficulty by saying that he made a mistake, and put a curse on the corn instead of a blessing. Rather an unneighborly act, and paid for, too!"

Harris came from Coventry, Chenango County, N. Y. [Query. Was he not the same Martin Harris who, in 1799, was imprisoned and broke jail at Wilkes-Barre?]

Joe often told Mrs. D. Lyons of the hidden treasure, and of the "enchantment" about it, and that it was necessary that *one of the company should die* before the enchantment could be broken.

After Oliver Harper's death the digging was prosecuted with renewed energy. Harper had been efficient in procuring men and means to carry on the enterprise, which was not to search for the "plates" from which Joe pretended to receive revelations, but for reported hidden treasure.

A belief that money will yet be found as predicted still affects some weak characters, and even within the last five years digging has been carried on slyly at night on or towards Locust Hill, but not in the same place where Joe's believers worked.

The compiler has herself visited the place where the Book of Mormon was prepared for publication. A part of the building forms the rear of the house at present occupied by Mrs. Joseph McKune. It was (in Joe's time) close by the brook, and had been used by Mr. Hale for dressing deer-skins. Mrs. Lyons saw both Smith and Harris there with the manuscript in hand.

Samuel Brush, of Oakland, often talked with Harris upon the subject of the translation; but, though Mr. B. was often in company with Joe Smith, fishing, etc., the latter never referred to it, and "this was after all the digging."

Reference has been made to the difference of opinion in regard to Joe's first operations in Susquehanna County. R. C. Doud asserts that in 1822 he was employed, with thirteen others, by Oliver Harper, to dig for gold under Joe's directions (though the latter was not present at the time), on Joseph McKune's land; and that Joe had begun operations the year previous. He states that George Harper, a brother of Oliver, had no faith in the enter-

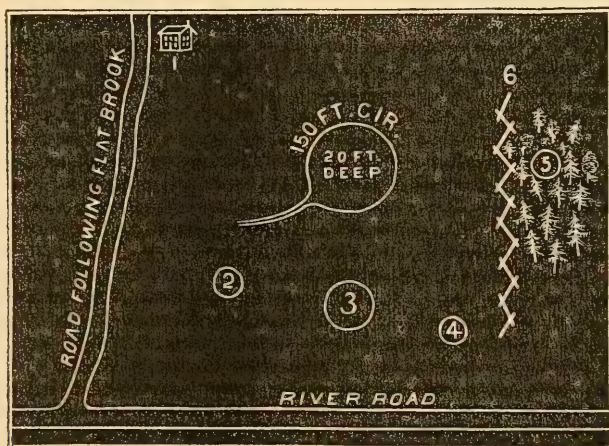
¹ Another version of this is: "To remove the enchantment, Joe's followers killed a *black dog*, in lieu of the desired black ram, and dragged it around and around in the pit."

prise, but tracked the party to Hale's farm. The digging was kept up constantly; seven resting and seven at work.

On the old Indian road from Windsor to Chenango Point, about four miles west of Windsor, men were digging, at the same time, for silver, upon Joe's telling them where it could be found. Mr. D. further states that he himself had no faith at all, but hired out at so much per day, and it was of no consequence to him whether his employer gained his point or not.

It is said that even Mr. Isaac Hale was at first a little deluded about the digging, while he boarded the party. This probably was some time before he had met Joe Smith; as it would appear, that the time referred to by Mrs. D. Lyons, was in 1825, when the digging was renewed after Harper's death, and Joe himself was present.

Jacob I. Skinner, son of Jacob (who was twin-brother of Israel Skinner), has the deed of the land on which Joe's followers experimented. It is something over a quarter of a mile north of the river to "the diggings," up Flat Brook. The accompanying diagram will illustrate the relative position of the pits.



JOE SMITH'S DIGGINGS.

1. Situation of J. I. Skinner's house.
2. Pit filled and grain growing over it.
3. A larger pit filled.
4. A smaller one partly filled.
5. A pit that has not been disturbed, in the woods.
6. Fence. Relative positions only, not exactly proportionate distances, are here given.

Starting from Susquehanna Depot to reach this place, one crosses the bridge and turns to the left following the road nearest the river, which strikes the old river road at Shutt's house; then continuing on down until he crosses a creek and comes in sight of a school-house, with a grove beyond it, in front of which, on the opposite side of the road, is a graveyard. Just above the school-house he turns into a road on the right, and follows up "Flat Brook" to the farm now owned by J. I. Skinner. From his house a path leads about 120 yards southeast to the largest excavation, which was also the *last* one, from which proceeds a drain about twelve rods long.

The sides of the pits were once perpendicular, but one has been wholly filled up, and corn is growing over it; another, in addition to the large one mentioned, is now partially filled, and the sides in consequence are sloping. In the fourth (the one just over the fence), no alteration has been made, ex-

cept as cattle have pushed in the surface around it to reach the water which gathers there. It is under the trees, the land not having yet been cleared.

Poor Emma Hale Smith lived long enough to rue her "inquiry into Joe's character;" the pretext she gave for leaving home the day she went with him to be married.

(Her mother said to Mrs. D. Lyons, "Don't you think Emma was such a goose as to go up to Joe's father's to find out his character?")

Joe Smith removed to Ohio where he founded a church; from there the "Saints" moved to Independence, Mo.. Smith following them January, 1838. From Independence they went to Nauvoo, Illinois, where Smith was imprisoned, on a warrant obtained by the owners of the "Expositor" newspaper, which had been demolished by Smith's orders. On the 27th of June, 1844, a mob of nearly two hundred men broke into the jail and shot Joseph Smith, Jr., and Hiram, his brother.

THE TREADWELL TRIAL.

[In the early period of the labors of the compiler in preparing a history of Susquehanna County, she spent several weeks in condensing the voluminous notes of one of Treadwell's counsel, B. T. Case, Esq., and weaving in such outside information respecting the case as had come to hand. On account of its being the first trial of its kind in the county, it excited an intense interest, which has scarcely yet disappeared; but the annals have so grown upon her hands as to render compression a necessity, and the repulsiveness of this subject, together with the fact of the greater frequency of trials of this kind at the present day, may justify its selection for only a passing notice here. Should there be any persons who feel an interest to look further into the facts of the case, they are welcome to take the fuller account originally prepared for this work, or perhaps they may find it published hereafter in the newspapers of the county.]

About sunset, May 11th, 1824, the body of Oliver Harper, son of Hon. Geo. Harper of Windsor, N. Y., was found lying and streaming with blood in the old Harmony road, a mile and a half below Lane's mill (Lanesboro). A foul murder had been committed, and suspicion pointed to Jason Treadwell, of Harmony (Oakland), or possibly just over the line in Great Bend, as the author of the deed. He was arrested and brought to Montrose jail. His trial took place Sept. 1-5, 1824, before Judge Herrick, with D. Dimock and Wm. Thomson, Associates. He was defended by B. T. Case, Esq., and Hon. Horace Williston, late of Athens, Bradford County; while N. B. Eldred and Garrick Mallery, Esqs., were the attorneys on the part of the Commonwealth. The evidence daily grew stronger to implicate Treadwell as the murderer; and the jury's verdict was, "GUILTY." Upon his own statement he knew who committed the deed; he lent the rifle to the murderer, gave him provisions while lying in the woods two days—the time within which Harper and another man were expected to pass with money; received the rifle in a secluded spot the evening after the murder, and kept him secreted that night. But until he saw his own immediate danger of paying the penalty, he was silent as to any knowledge of the murder.

He was executed Jan. 13, 1825, on the only gallows ever erected in Susquehanna County. The location was on the west side of the public square, nearly in front of the present residence of Dr. Vail. [There is some discrepancy in the statements respecting this.] The remains were taken to Great Bend and interred on the bluff above the 60-foot cut on the Erie Railway, between the house of I. Hasbrook and that of the late Isaac Reckhow, Esq. He left a widow and seven children. The county newspaper, for two months after the execution, contained earnest discussions upon the question of capital punishment.

The Hon. H. Williston relied upon his client's protestations of innocence until the following incident occurred on the trial:—

One witness described the disguised person seen in the woods the day Harper was shot, and not far from where he was found dead, as having on a particular coat, from which *a certain button was missing*. The coat was produced, shown to be Treadwell's; but there was *no missing button*. The fact tended to discredit the witness, and favor Treadwell. As the trial passed on Mr. Williston drew the coat towards him, carelessly turned it over so that he could see the button alleged to have been missing, and discovered, by the thread, etc., that *the button had been newly sewed on!* A cold conviction of Treadwell's guilt passed over his lawyer like an ague chill, as this mute fact corroborated the witness. He revealed it to no one then, and but rarely in later years. Both O. N. Worden, Esq. (who furnished the item), and Hon. W. J. Turrell, have heard the incident from his own lips.

The former in a recent statement says:—

"While in Great Bend village, Mr. Hinsdale, a shoemaker, who saw Treadwell hung, stated that his brother received, about twenty years ago, the printed confession of a man who was hung near New Orleans, in which the criminal stated that he had committed seven murders, but knew of only one man being hung for his crimes. That was Treadwell, of Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania. Both lay in wait for the murdered man. One was to shoot first, and if his shot was not successful, the other was to shoot next. The first shot fell to the man named; his victim fell dead; and so Treadwell did not have to shoot, and did not shoot, although he was in every respect, excepting the first shot, a murderer.

"The name of the criminal who was hung, and the exact time and place, Mr. Hinsdale cannot recall; but having, although young, witnessed T's execution, this revelation of the probable accomplice remains clear upon his mind."

NOTE TO PAGE 24.—The following letter of Hon. J. W. Chapman is in explanation of the magnetic variation in running the county line:—

"Having as county surveyor retraced, and with careful chain-carriers remeasured the east line of Susquehanna County, under the direction of our county commissioners in August, 1870—a little over two years ago—I am able to give the *precise course and distance* from personal observation.

"In doing so I have to *correct* the survey of Mr. Case in 1827, from whose notes the statement is made. Although the very best authority, generally, in such matters, Mr. Case reported the whole distance to be six perches less than 24 miles to a stone-heap erected on (what he took to be) the State line. Charles Avery, Esq., who was one of the commissioners at the time, and now the only living man among us who accompanied Mr. Case in 1827, says, they built the monument on a marked E. and W. line, which they took to be the State line; and it being in the wilderness, several miles from any habitation at the time, and late in the last day of the week, and a storm impending, they quit without further examination.

"We found the stone monument according to his measure, but the *true State line* over three-fourths of a mile beyond, proved by tracing it eastward 120 perches to the sixth mile-stone from the Delaware River, by which the exact width of the east end of the county is proved to be $24\frac{3}{4}$ miles, and the length only 33 miles and 200 perches, instead of 34 miles, as generally quoted 'from the sixth to the fortieth mile-stone.'

"Having some years since measured the west line of this county also (excepting the width of Auburn township), I *know* it starts from the fortieth milestone, and the width must be about $24\frac{1}{4}$ miles at the west end—or $\frac{1}{2}$ mile less than the east end; and the State line of Pennsylvania and New York being *due east and west* on the forty-second parallel of latitude, we found the *present variation* of the magnetic needle to be $5\frac{3}{4}^{\circ}$; the *apparent* course of the State line being $84\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$ E. and $N. 84\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$ W. The *present apparent* course of the east line of the county was found to be $N. 3\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ E.; while the *true*

meridian being $5\frac{3}{4}^{\circ}$ therefrom, the *real* course of the line must be about N. $2\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$ W.

"This line was originally run for the division between Northampton and Northumberland Counties, Wayne County since taken from the former, and Luzerne (now Susquehanna) from the latter; and, instead of striking the State line at the sixth mile-stone, as generally supposed, it is 120 rods west of it.

"The matter may be more briefly stated thus: Susquehanna County extends from 120 perches west of the sixth milestone on the New York State line to the fortieth, and is consequently $33\frac{5}{8}$ miles in length by about $24\frac{1}{2}$ miles average width; the east line being $24\frac{3}{4}$ miles precisely, and the west about $24\frac{1}{4}$; the *true* polar course of the east line being N. $2\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$ W.; and the north line *due west*, embracing an area of about 824 square miles."

WOMAN'S WORK FOR THE UNITED STATES SANITARY COMMISSION.

MONTROSE AND BRIDGEWATER.

In Montrose, woman's work for the soldiers of the late war began immediately upon the formation of the first company of volunteers, April 22, 1861. During the ten days which elapsed before its departure for the seat of war, trembling fingers prepared lint while hearts ached at the thought, so suddenly forced upon them, of its possible speedy use. To most women, the roll of the drum, and the company's drill, were depressing rather than inspiring; but, since men *must* meet their country's call, the women of 1861, as those of 1776, arose to make them ready.

Mrs. Judge Jessup had prepared a dinner for sixty volunteers from Susquehanna Depot, the day the company was organized.

Mrs. Wm. L. Post procured subscriptions for the purchase of a flag for the company, two days later.

On the 26th, while picking lint, a number of ladies were in consultation at Mrs. W. J. Mulford's, in regard to the making of blouses, haversacks, and shirts, material for which had been provided.

April 29th a full meeting was held at Academy Hall, for cutting out and arranging the work, which was consigned to committees, and distributed throughout the community. The few sewing machines then here were kept constantly busy in the work.

On the 30th at Mrs. B. S. Bentley's, and on May 1st, at Mrs. F. B. Chandler's, there were large gatherings of the ladies engaged on the shirts and blouses, while the young ladies, at Mrs. I. L. Post's, finished eighty-four haversacks. Everywhere there was activity and excitement.

May 2d, 1861, all the preparations were completed, garments and haversacks having been taken to Judge Jessup's, and, at 11 A. M., the company, (Charles Warner, captain,) marched there to receive them.

In each haversack, Mrs. Jessup had placed a Testament; and within each, another had slipped a printed card, endorsed by the "Mothers and Sisters of Montrose," at one of the meetings of the previous week. It was expressive of the spirit in which they began the great work afterward accomplished by them, saying to the volunteers, "We regard you as a part of the great National Police, to whom we shall owe not only our personal safety, but the preservation of the true idea of national self-government."

From Judge Jessup's house the company marched to the court-house, where the flag was presented them, and its acceptance acknowledged in a speech by Ira N. Burritt, who has since done his country honored service. Fifty-six carriages took the volunteers to the depot. A sadder day had never been known in Montrose. Though the enlistment had been only for three months, it was expected severe fighting would occur in the mean time, but that this would end the war. On reaching Harrisburg, other measures

were found to prevail, and enlistment for three years being demanded, the most of the company returned home by the 11th of May following. Upon the organization of Capt. G. Z. Dimock's company, Sept. 19, 1861, and prior to their departure on the 27th of the same month, the ladies of Montrose busied themselves in preparing for their comfort.

In December following, four large boxes were forwarded to the company at Beaufort, S. C. The perilous voyage in the "Winfield Scott," with the overtasking of mind and body it involved to those on board, and particularly to Company D., Fiftieth Pennsylvania Volunteers, placed a number of the latter on the sick list, and for them a special box was prepared. These boxes were gratefully acknowledged, January, 1862.

Though the U. S. Sanitary Commission was at work ere this, and in September, '61, had received the endorsement of President Lincoln and General Winfield Scott, little was known of it here.

In July, 1862, just prior to the organization of the Montrose Soldiers' Aid, public notice was given that a box would be forwarded, as soon as filled, to our sick and wounded soldiers in a Philadelphia hospital. The call was promptly met by our citizens generally. The receipt of this and of a second box was gratefully acknowledged six days later.

July 31, 1862, the ladies of Montrose met and organized a Soldiers' Aid Society—the first in Susquehanna County. It originated in the casual meeting of four ladies, detained by a shower, in the vestibule of the Baptist church; when one of them, being the wife of a soldier (C. W. Mott), then sick in camp, and another, the daughter of a soldier (E. B. Mooney), mentioned the receipt of letters from them, which revealed their destitution. Actuated by these accounts, the ladies then and there agreed to exert themselves to secure the formation of a society for the relief, not only of the soldiers in question, but, as far as might be, for that of their suffering comrades wherever they could be reached. A number of the ladies of the borough were shortly afterwards called upon and requested to meet at Mrs. Mooney's, on the day above mentioned; when, as it resulted, the four were joined by perhaps as many more. Mrs. Wm. L. Post presided; and the organization was effected by assent to certain rules, making the chief officer, or president, to be chosen weekly, that the responsibility might be shared by all. Miss Kate N. Hill was elected a permanent secretary and treasurer.

During the week following, Mrs. J. W. Chapman and Mrs. Benjamin Case, as well as the former, solicited from the community such material as could be made available in preparing comforts for the soldiers; their second meeting was at Mrs. Post's, and was fully attended. The gentlemen of the place, from the outset, encouraged the movement. A lawyer offered a room in his office for their accommodation, but, before they had occupied it, Mr. B. R. Lyons, having two large rooms over his store, most conveniently fitted up for the purpose, tendered their use to the society. Over fifty ladies gathered here about the middle of August, 1862; and, with varying numbers (often more than fifty), they met here every week for two and a half years, during which, Mr. L. did gratuitously everything for their comfort which kindness and liberality could devise. He furnished fuel for three winters. During the first months, no one was obliged to stay at home, on Soldiers' Aid day, because of a storm or of bad walking; the carriage and escort of Hon. M. C. Tyler were always in readiness, and often secured an efficient meeting, that must otherwise have been a failure.

The report of the society, from its organization to October 6, 1862, showed an income from private cash donations, subscriptions, avails of concert by Montrose band, and of the ladies' table at the fair, etc., amounting to \$274.43. From this \$21.23 had been paid to the express company for charges on seven boxes. Of these, one was sent to Capt. Dimock, Fredericksburg, Md.; two to Miss Ellen Mitchell, Point Lookout, Md.; one to Mr. Charles

Neale, Washington, D. C.; two to Quartermaster Gen. Hale, Harrisburg, Pa.; one to Miss E. P. Heberton, Media, Pa. The contents were shirts, dressing-gowns, slippers, canned and dried fruit, etc.

Early attention had been given to drying berries and currants for the use of the sick in army hospitals; but, in the fall of 1862, a call from the Sanitary Commission for dried apples furnished glad work for many neighborhoods. A circular, entitled, "What they have to do who stay at home," issued by the same soon after, was of great service.

The society had the free use of the columns of the Montrose newspapers, and it is but just to refer very much of its efficiency to this fact.

As winter approached, attention was given to knitting and procuring woolen socks for soldiers in actual service. An entertainment was given by the society, Christmas eve, at Academy Hall, the avails of which were \$154.43. Prior receipts from the Odd Fellows and Masonic Lodges, and private donations in money and clothing had given abundant means for the work in hand; and, by the close of 1862, the eighth box had been filled. This was forwarded to the Sanitary Commission in New York. The ladies were assured that, with one exception, their consignments had reached the parties designed; one box, it is supposed, fell into the enemy's hands.

About the 1st of January, 1863, the Montrose Aid elected new officers, and abrogated the plan of rotation in the office of president; Mrs. Mary L. Wootton was chosen permanently; Mrs. F. B. Chandler, vice-president; Mrs. M. C. Tyler, Mrs. Joel D. Lyons, Mrs. I. Vadakin, Mrs. Hugh McCol-lum, Mrs. Wm. L. Post, Mrs. Erastus Rogers, Mrs. N. Mitchell, and Mrs. Gilbert Warner, on financial and executive committees; Miss Hetty D. Biddle, treasurer; Miss Ellen Searle, secretary; a new office was resolved upon—that of corresponding secretary—and Emily C. Blackman was elected to fill it. The first meeting of a Mite Society acting in connection with the Aid, was held Jan. 6th, at Mrs. Charles Neale's.

Not far from this time the ladies of Philadelphia responded favorably to an appeal from H. W. Bellows, President of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, for uniting the women of that city, "and throughout the Keystone State, in a more systematic supply of the wants of the National Soldier, who falls wounded or sick in the service of his country." In return the President of the Commission addressed to Mrs. Moore, the Corresponding Secretary of the organization in Philadelphia, a circular to be communicated to the women of our whole State, giving a statement of the facilities enjoyed by the Sanitary Commission for doing its work, and its reasons for wishing to concentrate the efforts of individuals and societies then acting independently.

This circular came to us accompanied by one issued by the Women's Pennsylvania Branch of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, and signed by Caleb Cope, president and treasurer; R. M. Lewis, secretary; Mrs. M. B. Grier, chairman, and Mrs. B. H. Moore, corresponding secretary, with more than fifty names on the different committees of the ladies of Philadelphia, comprising many of its best citizens. An appeal from them merited and received consideration, and particularly as it was based on facts such as these:—

"That the Commission's agents are notified of the time of an army's advance, and permitted to transfer their stores to as near the front as possible—and that they are the only organization authorized by Government to pass within the lines, and administer their supplies on the field of battle for the saving of life and the relief of suffering, knowing no difference between men from any section who are nobly fighting for the preservation of the Union.

"The work must be left undone if THE WOMEN of the land do not keep the Sanitary Commission supplied with the means of doing it."

Then followed a statement of their own organization, and an invitation to "every loyal woman" in the city and State, and surrounding counties of other States, to co-operate with them.

In response to this, the Soldiers' Aid of Montrose, March, 1863, became an auxiliary of the Women's Pennsylvania Branch, by an unanimous vote of the Society; and thereafter were stimulated to a greater degree of activity. First, by having a safe and prompt mode of transportation, free of expense to ourselves; thus allowing us to use all our funds for the purchase of material and maintenance of the Society; and, secondly, by the encouragement received through a correspondence with the Commission, as also with the ladies of the societies that soon organized in our vicinity. From the Montrose Aid, an appeal had been issued through the local newspapers, in the endeavor to arouse the county to exertion and to a connection with the Sanitary Commission. Circulars from the Women's Pennsylvania Branch were received by the society, and distributed by letter, and by personal interview on the street, one public day, when almost every township was represented in Montrose. The society's appeal had solicited the correspondence that was afterwards so mutually encouraging, and which served to give to the societies of the county some unity of method as well as of purpose.

Still, this would have failed to effect a result commensurate with the demand, but for the acceptance, by Miss SARAH M. WALKER, of her appointment, May 5, 1863, as Associate Manager of the W. P. B. for Susquehanna County; the duties of which post she at once assumed, by correspondence, being then in Philadelphia. Upon her return to her "mountain home," she made a visit in person to several societies, and in other instances assisted in their organization. Her presence and influence were the mainspring in the machinery of operations from that time onward. The demands upon her pen, so freely met; the amount of travel and exposure to which she was subjected; the untiring voice of entreaty and encouragement which she gave to the work, are facts known throughout the county, and her services were fully appreciated by the highest officers of the Commission. But we anticipate.

In March, 1863, Miss Walker then in Philadelphia, "meeting with the circulars of the Women's Pennsylvania Branch, became interested in the completeness of the system, and sent them to the 'Ladies Aid' in Montrose, which resulted in a cordial response of valuable supplies—the very first received at the rooms, No. 1307 Chestnut street." Within five months three dozen boxes had been forwarded by the society to the same destination, besides one box to the militia by Major Jessup. The secretary in her report of these gave the number of articles (shirts, 254, and other things in proportion), but added: "Not having estimated each consignment when sent, it is impossible to do it now."

Our rooms had been witness to exciting scenes through this summer. Extra meetings had been called after the Gettysburg battles, and four boxes were packed and forwarded within forty-eight hours. When the militia and "emergency men" were about to leave, the society, too, was pronounced in the public prints

"EQUAL TO THE EMERGENCY.—If our men deserve credit for the promptness with which they responded to the call of the Governor, there is no less praise due to the ladies who did so much to get them ready. Haversacks for a hundred men were to be made and filled with three days' rations, woolen shirts were to be made, and a hundred other little conveniences were to be got ready in a few hours. The ladies undertook the work, and by the time the company was ready to go, everything was ready for them to go with."

The society had been befriended in the matter of funds.

The "Emergency Band" gave the avails of a concert, \$100; the music department of the Academy gave another, with just half that result, but which permitted the society to give to each of two nurses \$25, for the purchase of such delicacies for the sick as might be wanting in the hospitals. A strawberry festival—the berries a donation from J. P. W. Riley, and the proceeds of which were nearly \$65; a private dramatic entertainment supplied over \$40; a still larger sum was given by the citizens; on one occasion

\$25 from one individual; \$15 from another; \$10 at different times from others, and many a five dollar note from as many friends were all so many spurs to our industry, as well as to procure material upon which to exercise it.

In August, 1863, at the thanksgiving services, after great Union victories, a collection of \$25 was taken up and sent to the Christian Commission. Several young misses held a fair at the residence of H. Drinker, realizing \$42.48, which was forwarded to the Sanitary Commission.

Owing to the departure of the president of the society, Mrs. Wootton, for Georgetown, D. C., to take charge as matron of the Volunteer Officers' Hospital, Mrs. Isaac N. Bullard was elected to fill her place, and it is pleasant to record here the unanimous opinion of the society, that we were singularly happy in having presiding officers of such energy and faithfulness, and to whose excellent judgment very much of our efficiency was due. A tribute is fitting here also to the recording secretary, Miss Ellen Searle, of whose valuable service we were about this time deprived by her removal to Pittston, Pa., where her death occurred, in October, 1867.

In November, '63, the society sent two barrels valued at \$100, to the prisoners at Richmond. During this month Miss Walker responded to the request for a report of the Aid Societies of Susquehanna County, from which we learn that there were at that time 21 societies. One township had three societies, three or more townships sent their contributions to the Montrose Aid, and in two instances two townships acted in concert. This, with our 27 townships, left but few where there was no organized effort. Before the close of the year two more societies were added to the list. When this report was read before the Board of Managers of the W. P. B. of the U. S. San. Com., December 7th, 1863, "it was on motion, resolved, that the secretary be requested to convey to Miss Walker the thanks and gratification of the meeting for the same, and to express through her to the societies of the county this appreciation of the noble efforts they are making in behalf of the Commission and our great cause." In forwarding this to Miss W., the secretary, R. M. Lewis added: "It affords me great pleasure to have this opportunity to express my cordial wish for the continued increase of your work, and to say how much we are indebted for it to your unwearied exertions as our associate manager."

Prior to 1864, the Montrose Aid had forwarded 82 barrels, boxes, and firkins, containing supplies for the sick and wounded. More than half of them went to the W. P. Branch.

The Mite Society, Miss Kate E. Searle, sec., continued to hold its meetings or "sociables," the avails of which were expended in the relief of absent soldiers' families. Thus, undesignedly, the young people imitated the noble example of Westmoreland (Wyoming), in 1777, when, at a town meeting, it was "voted by this town, that the committee of inspection be empowered to supply the sogers' wives and the sogers' widows, and their families, with the necessaries of life."—[*Miner's History of Wyoming*, p. 207.]

In January, 1864, the societies of the county were represented by Miss Walker at the Grand Council of the different branches of the Sanitary Commission at Washington, D. C. The following month she sent her appeal (lithographed) to the Aid Societies in behalf of the Great Central Fair at Philadelphia, to swell the receipts of the U. S. Sanitary Commission. February 26th, the Montrose Aid held a sanitary fair at the Keystone Hotel, realizing about \$400.

April 11th, a meeting of the citizens was held at the Court House, "to take into consideration the best method of representing the patriotism and ability of Susquehanna County at the great fair, in June next, at Philadelphia." Township committees had been appointed and requested to procure subscriptions to the fair; Wm. H. Jessup was appointed to prepare a circular for the use of the several committees. The Aid Societies acted as committees in all townships where organized. The result was most gratifying. More than

\$3000 were contributed by the county, the Montrose Aid collection being one-tenth of the amount. Several valuable relics were given up and disposed of, that the proceeds might comfort the sufferers of the national army.

Three or four copies of a large picture of the Fair buildings on Logan Square, Phila., drawn from nature, and on stone, and printed in oil colors, were presented to the Montrose Aid by the managers of the fair. Total receipts of the fair, about \$1,200,000.

During the progress of the fair, a paper was issued by the commission, entitled 'Our Daily Fare,' Miss Walker procured fifty subscriptions for this, at \$1.00 each. Other ladies in the county served the cause in a similar manner, but to a less extent.

In the mean time, the ordinary work of the society was not suspended. The fifty-seventh consignment was made to the W. P. B., the day after our box for the fair was forwarded.

Early in August, '64, an urgent appeal came to us, as to all contributing to the W. P. B., for blackberry brandy.

"We are losing," it stated, "lives valuable to home and country for the want of this remedial agent. We append a receipt, that no one may be at a loss as to the mode of preparing it. What is done must be done quickly. Old linen and muslin, and bandages are also needed in large quantities. Hospitals, crowded with wounded men, are suffering for want of them. Act promptly; send largely."

In response to this, the society sent five boxes of blackberry syrup, in the month of August, '64. A dramatic association of ladies and gentlemen of the place, assisted by visitors, gave to the society, this month, \$150.

At the suggestion of the associate manager, a call for a county council of soldiers' aid societies was made in the fall of 1864.

The following reports show the response it received:—

Secretary's Report, October 18, 1864.

"The Ladies' Aid Societies of Susquehanna County in council, and friends of the soldiers, met at the court-house at 2 o'clock P.M., on the 18th inst. Hon. Wm. J. Turrell was elected president of the council, and, on taking the chair, addressed the meeting with a few well-timed remarks. The following were elected vice-presidents: Hon. C. F. Read, B. R. Lyons, M. C. Stewart, Miss Sarah Walker, Mrs. L. Hewen, Mrs. Wade, Mrs. Cooley, Mrs. Stanford, Mrs. Thomas, and Mrs. M. C. Stewart. Secretaries, Dr. C. C. Halsey, Thomas Nicholson, and G. A. Jessup.

"Miss Sarah Walker, associate manager for Susquehanna County, from her list, called on the different societies to report. Reports were made (some at length, and some briefly and verbally) by the following, viz: Montrose, Elk Lake, Springville, Lawsville Center, West Herrick, Auburn, West Auburn, Jackson, Glenwood, Rush (Eddy), Clifford, Dimock, Bridgewater, West Harford, Liberty, Fairdale, and Franklin.

"Hon. C. F. Read reported, as chairman of the county committee to the sanitary fair, that over \$3000 had been sent to the Central Fair at Philadelphia from this county, and Miss Walker added the testimony of one prominent in the Sanitary Commission, that the direct supplies thereto from this county had not been lessened by this great contribution to the fair, as had been the case in many other counties. Mrs. D. Parish, of Philadelphia, made a brief address. Mrs. Holstein, of the same place, who has for the most of two years labored for the Sanitary Commission, and has recently come from the front, made a very interesting report, and many important suggestions. Said the organization here was more complete than in any other county she knew of. She had seen no rooms equal to those of the Soldiers' Aid Society in this place.

"In the evening, Dr. Parish, of Philadelphia, addressed the meeting at length—gave a full and very interesting account of the operations of the Commission. Rev. Mr. Cather, of Philadelphia, also spoke at length on the same subject.

"Hon. Wm. J. Turrell made a brief address.

"One of the resolutions unanimously adopted by the meeting was this:—

"*Resolved*, That we regard the labors of the Sanitary Commission as second in importance only to the actual service of the soldiers in the field, and that our confidence in its efficiency increases more and more as we become thoroughly acquainted with its operations.

"Dr. Halsey, secretary of the Council, at a later date, reported:—

"A few societies were unable to report by reason of the loose manner in which their accounts had been kept. Deaths, sickness, and removals are the reasons, in some cases, of imperfect reports. A large number sent in complete returns containing lists of all articles forwarded, with estimated cash value, while some sent complete lists, with cash value of only a part, or the cash value of all that had been done, with only a partial list of articles. Some have only a list of articles, and others only the cash value.

"Montrose, Harford, Uniondale, Franklin, Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Rush, Forest Lake, Friendsville and Forest Lake, West Harford, Laws-ville, Center, Dimock (two societies), Friendsville, West Auburn, Clifford, Springville, Auburn, East Bridgewater, and Little Meadows aid societies have sent to the Sanitary Commission, 1247 shirts, 174 sheets, 588 pair drawers, 720 pillows, 755 pillow cases, 212 arm slings, 291 dressing gowns, 247 pairs slippers, 342 pairs socks, 1913 towels and handkerchiefs, 126 quilts and blankets, 295 bottles of wine, 71 gallons of wine, 1 keg of wine, 1 cask of wine, 28 gallons syrup, 507 cans of fruit, 2709 pounds of dried fruit of all kinds, 13½ bushels dried fruit, 273 packages dried fruit, 31½ firkins of pickles, 100 pounds of butter, 5 tubs of butter, 1 firkin of butter, 50 pounds maple sugar, 1125 cakes maple sugar, 173½ dozen eggs, 1 keg eggs, 16 coats, 64 hop pillows, 2 pairs shoes, 3½ bushels apples, 10 quarts vinegar, 12 cans honey, 14 cans sundries, 11 bushels potatoes, 110 needle-books, etc., 61 pads, 1 sack dried corn, 8 quarts dried corn, 12 pounds horseradish, 17 pounds corn starch, 32 pounds cheese, 6 pairs mittens, 4 pairs pants, 110 lemons, 300 and more packages of unenumerated articles.

"Large quantities of bandages, lint, old cloth, reading matter, dried beef, sage, hops, fruit, combs, jelly, tea, green currants, pie plant, currant shrub, raspberry and elderberry vinegar, peaches, pears, eggs, beans, etc., are reported, of which no exact account can be given.

"Great Bend, Glenwood, Elk Lake, Brooklyn, Upsonville, and Jackson Aid Societies report estimated cash value of articles sent at \$943.62; donation from Welsh citizens, \$200; sent to central fair articles valued at over \$3000; making considerably more than \$4000 in addition to the foregoing list of articles.

"West Auburn and several other societies that were struggling to keep up the good work acknowledge, with thanks, \$10 donations for their encouragement from unknown friends, by hand of Miss S. M. Walker.

"Mrs. Grier, of Philadelphia, wrote to the associate manager, 'I am so delighted with the report and summary you have sent! It is, indeed, most gratifying and full of encouragement to earnest, faithful workers, as showing them, through you, what fidelity, and perseverance, and *faith* can accomplish. I feel like saying, 'Hurrah for Susquehanna County!' I have been so worn out this summer and fall that such things refresh me.'"

The thanksgiving collection, November, 1864, and a second supper, given at the Keystone Hotel in December, so replenished the treasury of the Montrose Aid, that, notwithstanding the large expenditures of the year, there was a good balance on hand.

The following, prepared by Mrs. Webb, is a summary report for each year of the society, from its organization to the close of 1864.

The receipts of the society for the year 1862 were	\$446 19
Expenditures for the same year	259 21
Leaving balance of	\$186 98

MISS KATE HILL, *Treasurer*.

The receipts for the year 1863 were:—

Balance from last treasurer	\$186 98
Received from society	461 88

\$648 86

Expenditures for the same year	412 87
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\$235 99

MISS HETTY D. BIDDLE, *Treasurer.*

Receipts for the year 1864 were:—

Balance from last treasurer	\$ 235 99
Received from the society	1272 72

\$1508 71

Expenditures for the same year	1351 29
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Balance	\$ 157 42
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Total receipts	\$2180 79
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Expenditures	2023 37—\$157 42
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MRS. H. J. WEBB, *Treasurer.*

It must be understood that Bridgewater had no separate organization from the Montrose Aid until late in 1864.

Hitherto little has been said of difficulties encountered by the Montrose Aid, and, in contrast with those known in scattered neighborhoods, they had none; but at least one difficulty they had in common. This arose from the often repeated stories derogatory to the San. Com. Respecting these, Mr. Knapp, special Relief Agent of the San. Com. at Washington, wrote:—

“At times the supplies at our store-houses in Washington have been very short, and some of the demands for the hospitals could not be met; but as a general thing nineteen-twentieths of all the real needs which come within their proper province to supply, have been met.

“A great many requisitions are made upon the charity of the people, through the Sanitary Commission, for supplies that can and ought to be obtained from the Government, and it is made an especial duty of our hospital visitors to endeavor to insure to the patients such supplies through that legitimate channel, rather than by distributing of the Sanitary stores. I inclose to you a list furnished me direct from the books kept at the store-house of the Commission, of articles given out by the agents of the Commission in Judiciary Square Hospital (where it is stated that little or nothing was furnished) during the four months prior to December 1st, 1864. You will perceive that of wool shirts, there are nearly 400; wool drawers, 230; socks, 251; towels and handkerchiefs together, over 500; blackberry wine, 95 bottles. These were distributed in small quantities from week to week, to meet real needs, although at times more would have been issued and wisely had the stock on hand been larger.

“Our hospital visitors endeavor, each one in his or her own assigned hospitals, to go through all the wards at least once each week, and learn the needs, and so far as is right supply them. These hospital visitors are all, I believe, conscientious, earnest men or women, doing their work with thoroughness, and with no dainty hands—visiting the bedsides of the men themselves and ministering to them. None of the agents referred to keep house in the city—but all board, with one exception, at the simplest tables with the ordinary accommodations. That one, for good reasons, boards at a hotel.

“With one exception, also, the vehicles used by these agents in visiting the hospitals, and conveying the supplies, are simply covered wagons—one horse and wagon being assigned to a visitor who attends to three or four hospitals. For that one person, excepted for good reasons (connected with the work of visiting with other hospitals, the post hospitals, and the hospitals of various forts at long distances from each other), two horses and a comfortable carriage are provided.”

Extracts from Mrs. Grier's letter to Miss Walker:—

"The Sanitary Commission in every city is composed of the very best and wisest men who could be selected for an important trust: such men as dying fathers trust their children and fortunes to. In Philadelphia we have no more honored names than those who compose our Ex. Com. of gentlemen. You know of them yourself. It is the same in New York and Boston. The Commission itself is composed of men known for character and intellect all over the country. I ask these doubters whether they think it likely such men would lend themselves to establish a great fraud, or even to cover it if it had crept into an institution without their knowledge? Why, their very honored names are at stake in the fair fame of the Sanitary Commission. It is impossible, too, that anything really wrong should go long undiscovered if it were caused by minor officials. Think of the constant system of checks and guards kept upon the employees of the Commission.

"For instance in our office, I am certain it would be utterly impossible for roguery to go undiscovered for a week. I *know* the general work of the Com. is so conducted. Then think of the watching people all the time on the lookout for mismanagement of the trust they have reposed in the institution. The Christian Commission is also a first-rate police force to see that the Sanitary does no wrong."

The same month the Montrose Aid were in receipt of a letter from Miss Ellen Mitchell, in which she says: "The Sanitary have adopted a new plan of distributing their stores in the hospitals around Washington. And with what they are doing for us at present, and the manner of doing it, I am satisfied entirely."

The last year of the war, and the closing up of the work of the U. S. San. Commission, found the Montrose Aid faithful to the last.

After having had the use of Mr. Lyons' rooms two and a half years, we were offered the pleasant parlor of the engine house, No. 1, by the Rough and Ready Company, upon the former being needed for another purpose.

The first meeting at the engine house was held March 2, '65, during a severe snow-storm, which, however, did not prevent a large number from being in attendance, or keep away the indefatigable Associate Manager, who rode ten miles to meet us and return. Four barrels were packed that day for the W. P. B. The young misses of the place contributed patchwork ready for quilting with a text of scripture written on each block, for hospital reading.

In May, a box of Syrian curiosities, valued at \$100, and a box containing small blocks from the ancient cedars of Lebanon, valued at \$50, were sent to the Northwestern Fair at Chicago; and the society received in return a handsome silk flag, now in the keeping of the compiler. The total receipts of that fair were \$325,000.

May 15th, the several branches and societies of the Sanitary Commission were requested by the President, Dr. Bellows, to maintain their usual system and activity up to the 4th of July following. The last regular meeting of the Montrose Soldiers' Aid occurred on the Thursday previous to the latter date. The following summary of consignments by the society was then given by the secretary:

"Forwarded in 1862-3, 82 bbls.—Ellen Searle, Recording Secretary. 1864, 48 bbls.—Maggie Baldwin, Recording Secretary. 1865, 22 bbls.—Mrs. H. C. Tyler, Recording Secretary. Total 152 bbls.

One hundred and three of these bbls. were sent to the Sanitary Commission, 5 bbls. of unenumerated articles to the American Union Commission, for Refugees, 2 bbls. to our prisoners in Richmond, and 42 bbls. were distributed promiscuously."

[This statement does not include the donation sent to Chicago.]

The ladies proposed to give a dinner, on the 4th of July, to all the returned soldiers in the county who might accept the invitation; but finding themselves unequal to the labor requisite, they consented to give the enterprise

into the citizens' hands, accompanied by \$100 from their treasury. At the dinner, the members of the society waited upon the tables, happy in having their labors culminate in rendering "honor to whom honor" is due.

By request the Treasurer submitted the following summary report of the Montrose Soldiers' Aid, from its commencement, in July, '62, to its close, in October, 1865:

Total receipts in cash.....\$2505 22.

Mrs. H. J. WEBB, *Treasurer*.

Recording Secretary's Report.—The Recording Secretary also gives the following report of consignments from the Montrose Soldiers' Aid since its organization, in July, 1862, to October, 1865. The following articles were forwarded: 808 shirts, 452 prs. drawers, 181 dressing-gowns, 142 prs. slippers, 328 prs. socks, 360 pillows, 365 cases, 61 sheets, 7 prs. mittens, 951 towels and handkerchiefs, 33 quilts and blankets, 332 housewives, 12 prs. pants, 17 collars, 9 vests, 4 coats, 324 cans of fruit, 830 boxes dried fruit, 91 gallons wine, 325 bottles wine, 3 boxes blackberry cordial, 4½ bbls. green apples, 5½ bbls. potatoes, 1 cask cider apple-sauce, 35 firkins pickles, 1 barrel pickles.

The value of these articles is estimated at \$4345.83. Many valuable packages which were sent cannot be fully estimated. Of these are corn-starch, tapioca, gelatin, maple sugar, soap, catsup, dried corn, canned chicken, horse-radish, apples, leather, mustard, farina, raisins, packages of lint, linen and bandages.

We feel that the above estimate is lacking by some hundreds of dollars the value of the articles sent.

MAGGIE BALDWIN, *Secretary*.

In the fall of 1865, friends in Montrose and vicinity sent \$40 to the fair for the Soldiers' Home in Philadelphia. Packages both to the Home and the Lodge were forwarded about the same time.

In 1866, a barrel and a box of supplies for the Thanksgiving dinner of the disabled soldiers of the Home were sent from Dimock, Bridgewater, and Montrose, which were so thankfully acknowledged, that the same parties have contributed, every succeeding fall, more or less liberally for the same purpose; all the packing has been done at the residence of G. V. Bentley.

APOLACON TOWNSHIP.

LITTLE MEADOWS.

The society at Little Meadows was the *second* Soldiers' Aid in the county, the date of its organization being September 17, 1862. Other neighborhoods, such as Upsonville and West Harford, contributed comforts to our soldiers as early, and perhaps earlier; but no society was then formed in those places, and permanent work was not anticipated.

At Little Meadows the ladies enlisted "for the war," and served, as an organization, the full term of their enlistment; though the corps of fifteen, engaged during the first year, was reduced the last year to five, and consequently the amount of labor accomplished was greatly diminished.

The borough of Little Meadows, so remote from the center of the county, and bordering on the State line, is allied by business to Owego, rather than Montrose, and the volunteers of the Union Army from that section were, for the most part, connected with the 109th Regiment N. Y. S. V.

The ladies of the Aid Society were, as a general thing, represented in the army by members of their own households, for whom they were laboring directly, thus diminishing their work through the Sanitary Commission.

The officers of the society were: Miss Mary Barney, President, and Mrs. Adda Louise Beardslee, Secretary and Treasurer.

For the first six months their stores were sent to the U. S. Sanitary Commission at Washington; but in May, 1863, they made their first consignment to the Women's Pennsylvania Branch at Philadelphia, and thereafter were

confident of a wise disposal of their contributions. The clothing forwarded was principally of new material. The following is from a letter to the secretary:—

"I do not believe you are aware how well Susquehanna County is doing, and I think it quite right to appeal to your county pride by way of stimulating and encouraging you. I believe we have more Aid Societies in Bucks and Susquehanna than in any other counties. . . ."

"I am, very truly yours,

"M. C. GRIER,

"Chairman Executive Com. U. S. S. C."

A Festival and Concert at Little Meadows, held under the auspices of the Aid Society, and aided by volunteer musical talent from Owego, yielded a fund of upwards of \$125. The borough contributed over \$60 in cash and articles of value to the Great Central Fair. The number of boxes forwarded to the Commission is not given, but from the number of articles we can specify enough to show something of the industry of the society. Over six hundred garments, including bedding, were made; over two hundred pounds of dried berries and currants, twelve bushels of dried apples, eight and a half gallons of blackberry cordial, one barrel of cucumbers, three firkins of pickles, one box of onions, one box of lemons, potatoes and tomatoes in quantity, and a variety of smaller packages for hospital and field use were sent; and, with donations to the Grand Central Fair and for "Special Relief," were too moderately estimated at \$600.

DIMOCK.

A Soldiers' Aid Society was formed at Dimock Corners, October 7, 1862. A box soon filled, and valued at \$37, was sent to the Sanitary Commission at Philadelphia. Nothing more was accomplished until after the reorganization of the society and its connection with the W. P. B., July, 1863, when a new impetus was given to its efforts by Miss Walker and friends and the efficient officers—Mrs. Lyman Blakeslee, President; Mrs. Mason Tingley, Treasurer; Miss Fannie Woodruff, Secretary.

Their labors were continued to the close of the war, with a total result of consignments (including the above) of five barrels and four boxes of sanitary stores, two firkins of pickles, two tubs of butter, and a cask of blackberry wine. The estimates of two barrels and two boxes are not given; the remainder were valued at \$206.68. The society was always small, there being two other societies within the limits of the township. Perhaps no contributor was more active than an aged lady—Miss Sarah Babcock—whose knitting-needles were kept steadily at work; the avails sometimes found their way to the Montrose Aid, without waiting for the less frequent consignments from Dimock. She died at the latter place a few years afterwards, aged nearly 84 years. She was born in Westerly, R. I.; came to this county in 1812, and was one of the constituent members of the Dimock Baptist church.

In August, 1863, the following report of the Elk Lake Society was given by the corresponding secretary:—

"The Elk Ladies' Aid Society was organized November 5th, 1862. There were twelve ladies present, who proceeded to elect a president, secretary, treasurer, and a committee of three ladies to solicit contributions. As we had no funds, it was 'resolved that the society commence work by each member furnishing such articles of necessary clothing as can be spared from our own houses; that we meet one afternoon each week to repair such articles until we can obtain new material; also, that each member pay to the treasurer the sum of three cents per month, to be used for the purchasing of thread, tapes, buttons, etc., for our work.' Any one, however, was *at liberty* to pay more. The average number of ladies in regular attendance until May 1st, 1863, did not exceed seven."

"During the winter we filled one box with dried fruit, butter, new flannel shirts, woolen shirts, slippers, dressing-gowns, towels, handkerchiefs, and many other useful articles. It was sent to Washington, D. C., in charge of Miss Clara Barton, from Massachusetts. We have, since the first of May, filled two barrels and one box with clothing, pillows, quilts, lint, bandages, and delicacies, which have been sent to the Women's Pennsylvania Branch, Philadelphia."

By the 18th October, 1864, the Elk Lake Society had contributed, including donations to the fair at Philadelphia, very nearly \$500, for the benefit of suffering soldiers. The average number of working members was *but five* the second year; for, though at times the neighborhood was well represented, far oftener only three ladies met for work. But there is abundant evidence that they were not idle in their homes, in the immense quantities of dried fruit prepared for the society, the liberal quantities of butter and cheese (106 lbs. of the latter), and other articles of home manufacture.

The meetings of the society were frequently enlivened by the presence of the associate manager for the county, or encouraged by her letters in her absence. "It is a source of satisfaction that not only our county, but that *our own township* should be so well represented in the Women's Council at Washington," wrote the secretary in reference to Miss Walker, and added, "Every hour that I work for our brave soldiers, every garment I cut and make, every sock I knit, and every delicacy I prepare, increases my interest in the Sanitary Commission."

About this time the society seemed to increase in popularity, also in means, and for several weeks the meetings were well attended. "I make it a rule," wrote the president of the society, "to read something from the documents sent me every week, also the letters I receive from Philadelphia." Here it may be stated, that the correspondence of all the societies with the secretaries of the commission was a source of comfort and strength not to be forgotten by us. A oneness of feeling with all who labored in the same humane and patriotic cause was one of the blessed outgrowths of the working of soldiers' aid societies everywhere. Denominational differences were lost sight of, and, in politics, the only question was of loyalty to the Union.

The officers of the Elk Lake Society were: Mrs. Denison Thomas, pres. and cor. sec.; Mrs. George Young, vice-pres.; Miss Harriet Stevens, treas., and Misses Mary E. Young and Sally Stevens, rec. secretaries.

The receipts of an oyster supper given by the society were \$85. This, in a farming district where the inhabitants are scattered, indicated a general interest in the cause. Still, reports prejudicial to the Commission found their way here, and proved one of the severest trials of the society. Their cash receipts in all amounted to \$112. From November, 1864, to the close of operations, July, 1866, six valuable boxes were filled and forwarded, which, even at the moderate estimate of the donors, added to former supplies, made the total value of their consignments not a whit behind those of Little Meadows, or about six hundred dollars. The list below is too much condensed to fully represent the results of the organization. It is from the pen of the corresponding secretary:—

We submit the following report from the Elk Lake Aid Society since its organization, November 5th, 1862, to the present time, July, 1865. Forwarded 16 boxes, 4 barrels, and 6 firkins, containing 33 shirts, 53 pairs socks, 32 pairs slippers, 7 dressing gowns, 144 handkerchiefs, 27 towels, 73 pillow-cases, 6 quilts, 2 bed-spreads, 14 pairs drawers, 25 needlebooks, 30 ration bags, 6 sheets, several pairs mittens, 100 fans, a large quantity of dried, canned, and pickled fruit, blackberry cordial, scrappel, potatoes, dried corn, horse-radish, dried herbs, lint, bandages, old linen and cotton, reading matter, etc. etc. We have received efficient aid from Auburn Four Corners and also from Rush.

[We notice the omission of *pillows*, of which quite a number were sent, and *one* pair deserves special mention—it was filled with *rose leaves*—the

fragrance of which was not sweeter than the love that contributed the gift. Mothers who had given their sons, their bravest and their best, and mourned them fallen in the service of their country, alleviated their grief by laboring for the sons of others, then suffering in hospitals or exposed to the perils of the field of strife.]

John Young kindly gave the society the use of a room, which two or three of the ladies furnished pleasantly. One gentleman supplied a stove; another the most of the fuel; and receipts in money from many of the gentlemen enabled the ladies to purchase material for their work. Even small boys rendered efficient aid in various ways.

SOUTH DIMOCK.

The members of this society, previous to their organization, contributed to the two other societies of the township.

Its officers were Mrs. George Blakeslee, president; Miss C. J. Newton, secretary; and Mrs. E. C. Miles, treasurer. The cash receipts, including \$10 per Miss Walker from the fund entrusted to her, were but \$43.42.

The meetings were held every Tuesday, at Mrs. Wm. Miles'.

The society consisted of but ten members; but they were able to report, November, 1864, having filled two boxes for the W. P. B., valued at about \$80.

HARMONY.

It is not known that any regular organization was ever effected by the ladies of Harmony; but there is evidence that their hands furnished supplies for the comfort of the Union's defenders. Mrs. Amanda Lyons was successful, during the first year of the war, in filling a large box, which was sent to Washington. Considerably later, Mrs. David Taylor forwarded a box to the Sanitary Commission, *via* Montrose Aid.

It is not probable this comprises all the effort made; but no further record has been given; as, also, in

OAKLAND,

where, as early as the summer of 1862, rumors reached us from Susquehanna Depot of work accomplished in getting off supplies for sufferers from the battle of Bull Run; but no definite report was ever made of it. No organization of the ladies was ever effected, so far as known to the associate manager for the county.

GREAT BEND.

The records of effort here are wanting in several particulars. The first box consisted of private contributions, valued at \$35. It was sent to Washington after the first battle. The Presbyterian Society, Mrs. F. D. B. Chase, secretary, sent a box, valued at \$50, to the Washington Hospital; the Young People's Society sent two boxes to the same amount. At a late period, Great Bend became auxiliary to the Sanitary Commission at Philadelphia, and sent two barrels and one box of supplies, besides one box, valued at \$100, for the central fair. These contributions, with a few dollars in cash from one or two parties, amounted to \$325.

This, however, seems a meager statement of what was actually done at Great Bend for the soldiers; but societies appear to have been discouraged because of injurious reports respecting the misappropriation of supplies, and because some of their donations were never heard from after being forwarded. Agents for different commissions obtained frequent contributions from the place.

HARFORD.

When it became a settled fact that the war would not be ended in 1861, the citizens of Susquehanna County quickly anticipated the needs of the army for the winter. It is believed that townships, in which no aid societies were afterwards in operation, were then active in forwarding supplies. Harford began early, and continued late in the good work in the face of strong opposition.

At a meeting held Oct. 28, 1861, at which Dexter Sibley was chairman, and E. T. Tiffany, secretary, it was "Resolved, To send aid to soldiers in the field to make them comfortable during the winter."

The committee appointed to carry out this resolution were, Tyler Brewster, Shippard Carpenter, Mrs. B. Wartrous, Mrs. A. Abel, and Mrs. H. Spearbeck. Their efforts resulted in filling a box containing socks, mittens and nightcaps, to the value of \$100, which was forwarded to Captain Gates' Company of Fourth Pennsylvania Reserves.

In July, 1862, two large boxes containing hospital stores of considerable value were sent to Washington. No account is given of any further movement until July 22, 1863, when the Ladies' Aid Society was organized by the election of Mrs. Joab Tyler, president, Miss Lucina Farrar, vice-president, Miss M. M. Edwards, secretary, Mrs. C. S. Johnson, treasurer, and Miss Melissa A. Tiffany, corresponding secretary. The society became auxiliary to the Women's Pennsylvania Branch of the Sanitary Commission, and two days later sent its first consignment: 1 bbl dried apples, 110 lbs., and 1 box of berries, 75 lbs. At this time there were 33 members enrolled, but the number of contributors were more than 100, and thus they were able, Aug. 31st following, to send another box of dried fruit, and one of clothing, etc.

Within a fortnight these were followed by a barrel of eggs (50 doz.), and a firkin of butter, and, before the close of September, a tub of butter (55 lbs.), additional. Dec. 16, 1863, the ladies were ready with another valuable box of clothing, bedding, etc., and a box of dried fruit (30 lbs. apples, 20 lbs. currants and berries) with 6 bottles of wine and jelly. The record thus far, ranks Harford next to Montrose in the number of consignments; but the year 1864 was one of discouragement to the society, whose only effort appears to have been made in connection with the Sanitary Fair at Philadelphia, to which it forwarded

Supplies to the amount of	.	.	.	.	.	.	\$100 00
And, in addition, cash	.	.	.	.	.	.	50 00
							<hr/> \$150 00
The collection on Thanksgiving-day, sent to the Christian Commission	.	.	.	.	.	.	27 30
The three boxes filled prior to the organization of the society	.	.	.	.	.	.	205 00
The contributions to the Sanitary prior to Jan. 1865, estimated at	.	.	.	.	.	.	217 10
							<hr/>
Total amounting to	.	.	.	.	.	.	\$600 00

Besides this, the citizens throughout the township sent 1100 lbs. of edibles for the soldiers' Thanksgiving dinner, 1864, among which were 1 tub of butter, 1 bbl. of apples, in all 5 or 6 boxes.

In the fall of 1864, on the resignation of former officers, Mrs. Peck was named as president, and Mrs. Whitney, treasurer. After replenishing the treasury from the avails of an oyster supper, in January following, and with \$10 from Miss Walker's fund, the ladies filled one more box with clothing, dried fruit, etc., and forwarded it to the W. P. B., Feb. 22, 1865.

Probably two dozen boxes, barrels, and tubs constituted the total consignments, containing at least 56 pairs drawers, 45 shirts, 40 pairs socks, quantities of old cotton and reading matter, and small packages, besides 249 lbs. dried apples, 165 lbs. berries, and about 3 gallons blackberry cordial.

WEST HARFORD.

The ladies comprising afterwards the West Harford Aid (Mrs. Alvin Stearns, president, Mrs. Tyler Brewster, secretary), sent to a hospital in Philadelphia, sometime in 1862, 1 firkin of butter, 1 keg of eggs, and a box containing over 50 pillows and cases, 36 pounds of dried berries and currants, old muslin, towels, etc.

In 1863 and '64 they contributed many valuable articles to the Aid Societies of Brooklyn and Montrose, among which were 3 bushels of dried apples, 15 pounds of dried berries, 10 pillows and cases, 10 towels, hop pillows, socks, mittens, 4 flannel shirts, and some other large garments.

From June, 1864, the ladies made their consignments independently, sending first, one box to Central Fair, Philadelphia, containing 1 quilt, towels, pillows, housewives, etc., valued at \$25.35. Also, 2 barrels of potatoes, and a box of eggs. (Many contributions in township report were from this section.)

September, 1864, 1 box, containing 20 pounds of dried berries and 35 pounds of dried apples, and three kegs of pickles were sent to the W. P. Branch. A barrel of sauer kraut (44 gallons) was afterwards forwarded, and January, 1865, the ladies were engaged in making up into shirts and drawers the flannel purchased with \$10 received per Miss Walker. Total estimate about \$185.

FRANKLIN.

No. 1. The ladies of Upsonville forwarded a box, as early as October, 1862, to the Sanitary Commission at Philadelphia

The contents valued at	\$35 00
Cash, Dec., 1862	12 00
One box to Sanitary Fair, 1864, valued at	17 00
Cash	12 10
One box to Sanitary Commission, at Philadelphia, September, 1864, valued at	34 00
One firkin of pickles	5 00
Cash sent to the Christian Commission	12 00
Total	\$127 10

It is not stated when an organization was effected, but it is believed to be not earlier than that of the foregoing societies. The president was Mrs. O. M. Hall. She received from Mrs. Plitt, secretary of the W. P. B. for this section, an acknowledgment of the box sent in September, 1864, in which she said:—

“Your box was unpacked yesterday, and every article found to be useful and of the best quality. Everything will be disposed of as you requested.” Such words as these sustained the courage of the societies all over the county.

The secretary of the Upsonville Aid, Mrs. Mary A. Ward, was the widow of a soldier wounded at Gettysburg, and whom she had nursed for two weeks in the hospital just before his death. It was from such scenes that desolated hearts turned to the work of relieving the sufferings of those still languishing in hospitals.

No. 2.—The Franklin Aid Society had not been thoroughly organized prior to a visit of the associate manager for the county, in November, 1863, but the ladies of the township had already accomplished something in the way of sending supplies, as is seen by the report of the Upsonville Aid, and by the acknowledgments of the secretary of the society at Montrose.

"The visit of the associate manager referred to resulted in a meeting at the Baptist church. Sausage-making, and all the after-work of butchering, was readily laid aside, but the work of *some* was brought along; the mother of eleven children had the eleventh in her arms, a babe of eleven months, and a quiet one at that; so, business was undisturbed. Suggestions were made and canvassed, and the result was the unanimous vote of the Franklin ladies present, to exert themselves anew for the relief of sick and wounded soldiers, and to combine their efforts by a systematic organization. Officers *pro tem.* were appointed, and the day for their first meeting, Thursday, the 19th inst. Here, too, the services of the stronger sex were not wanting to give the revived society a cash basis, which, if not large, still showed generous giving."

The Sanitary Commission department of the *Saturday Evening Post*, in copying a printed notice of this organization, said:—

"We must add an interesting incident that occurred at this meeting, and which reached us through a private source. A woman arose and said, 'I wish to tell you what the Sanitary Commission did for me. It saved the life of my only son, and sent him home to me with warm clothing on, which bore the stamp of the Commission.'

"If we mistake not, this unsolicited, simple testimony was of more benefit to our cause there than any argument could have been."

Pursuant to the appointment made at the church the ladies of Franklin met, and elected Mrs. D. H. Blowers, president; Mrs. Henry Beebe, vice-president; Mrs. Edwin Summers, treasurer; and Miss Jennie H. Lane, secretary.

By the last of December, 1863, they had forwarded to the W. P. B. one barrel of supplies, and, by the last of April, 1864, another, containing bedding, clothing, dried fruit, etc.

After these consignments were made, little appears to have been done until after the reception of \$10 from Miss Walker's fund. In acknowledging it the secretary adds:—

"We are much encouraged thereby. Last Sabbath, at the close of our services, the congregation were told of the gift with which to resume our labors for the soldiers, and were asked to aid also. They responded by giving us nearly \$20. We met yesterday (Nov. 25, 1864), and elected our officers, and are going to work with new energy and zeal, we hope. Our place of meeting is at the church."

Mrs. Mahala Pierson, president; Mrs. Charlotte Stockholm, vice-president; Mrs. James Fisk, treasurer; and Jennie H. Lane, secretary (as before).

The contributions of this society were estimated to be at least \$72.35.

NEW MILFORD.

As early, probably, as the spring of 1863, something was done by the ladies of New Milford, but no report has reached us of the result, except that by September of that year one box had been sent to the W. P. B., and they had held a festival, from which they realized \$48. A reorganization is mentioned as having then been made; but, not expecting ever to render any account of it, no note was taken. "Their intention was good," writes one of their contributors; "their sole aim and object being to provide something for the aid and comfort of suffering humanity."

Their meetings were held at the houses of members (six or eight only) each Wednesday afternoon. Their officers, six in number, were relieved of their duties each month, except the treasurer and secretary, who were elected permanently. No name is given except that of the latter officer, Miss Mary W. Bowers. The society were in receipt of \$89 upon their reorganization.

It is not probable this "talent" was "hid in a napkin;" but the compiler

has no clue to what it really "gained." No aid from the associate manager was accepted, as had been the case with many other societies; and, probably, on account of the fact that the ladies seemed desirous to send their supplies directly to Miss E. Mitchell, of their acquaintance, who was then engaged in hospital work; thus severing for a time, at least, their connection with W. P. Branch, represented by Miss Walker.

By March 27th, 1865, "2 boxes of eatables and a keg of pickles" had been forwarded to Miss M., and clothing was soon to follow. At this date, Mrs. Ellen Whitlock was president.

BROOKLYN.

No. 1.—The first Aid Society was organized July, 1863. Mrs. Lydia C. Adams, though in feeble health, missed but one meeting while they were held. Mrs. Geo. Chapman was also untiring. D. S. Watrous was secretary.

The fourth box of hospital stores was forwarded December 22, 1863. [The ladies of this section, prior to their organization, had contributed liberally to the Montrose Aid.] Feb. 22, 1864, they sent 40 lbs. butter, a quantity of socks, dried fruit, etc.

No estimate at the time was made of these five boxes; they were worth, with the \$7 cash sent with the last, probably \$250. Much was done in the way of private individual donations, such as stamps, envelopes, socks, and handkerchiefs to friends in the army. These were in almost every corps and division. "We are looking many ways, and trying to pray and encourage them all," wrote one of the society.

"In response to the call for supplies for the soldiers, and for contributions to the Great Central Fair, the members of the Methodist and Presbyterian congregations of Brooklyn assembled at the Presbyterian church, May 24th, and contributed and sent to Philadelphia the following articles: One large box of dried, canned, and preserved fruits, jellies, wines, and other hospital stores; two kegs of pickles; one tub of butter containing 84 lbs., with \$11 cash. They also sent to the Children's Department of the Fair a box of fancy articles, maple sugar, and other gifts of the children. The value of the whole was estimated at \$126.

"M. A. ADAMS,

"Chairman of Committee."

Total estimates of official consignments about \$375.

No. 2.—In April, 1864, the ladies of the Universalist denomination withdrew from the former society, and organized with Mrs. L. F. Porter, president; Mrs. Obadiah Bailey, treasurer; Mrs. E. S. Kent, secretary. The first organization declined in consequence. The second sent to the Sanitary Commission, in 1864, cash \$55, a box of stores of equal amount, and eight barrels of apples, worth \$20. March 17, 1865, the avails of a festival held at Mr. Wm. Craver's, \$105; and April 18, \$139 cash in addition, swelled the total contributions of this society to \$374 at least. Total from Brooklyn Aids, \$749.

CHOCONUT.

The Sisters of the Convent at St. Joseph's, under the supervision of Mother Mary Philomena, filled two boxes in 1863 and 1864 with delicacies and old linen, and forwarded them to the Sanitary Commission. They had no society organized. [In the report forwarded to the general secretary after the war, the copyist wrote "bbls." for "bottles," thus giving undue value to choice, but comparatively small contributions.]

Other ladies of Choconut were liberal contributors of cash, delicacies, and clothing, through the societies of Friendsville and Montrose.

SPRINGVILLE.

The ladies of Springville began their work by holding an ice-cream festival, on Thursday evening, May 21st, 1863, with the avails of which they were encouraged the next Monday evening, May 25th, to organize a soldier's aid society. Its first officers were: Mrs. Albert A. Root, pres.; Miss Philena L. Meacham, treas.; Miss E. Ursula Scott, secretary; with an executive committee of three—Mrs. Edward B. Scott, Mrs. E. H. Culver, and Miss Juliette Smith—for the first month.

Contributions began to flow in; but, to accommodate distant friends of the society, three officers were gratuitously furnished, by the gentlemen of the place, with horse and wagon for a collecting tour, from which they returned with supplies more than sufficient to fill the first box, which was sent to the W. P. B. (to which the society became auxiliary, June 25th, '63), on the 3d of July following. Bedding and delicacies for the sick were the principal contents, and it is interesting to note how these were procured. Ladies parted with part-worn dress skirts (no small sacrifice when dry goods were at maximum prices) for the linings of bed quilts, others brought carded wool for their manufacture, and still others sent patchwork and thread. Some sent feathers for pillows, others striped linen for ticks, and others cases for them; one lady gave sugar for making cordial, another the brandy, another, "the jug to put it in." As a rule, in all the societies, the spirits used were paid for from the treasury.

By the 29th of July another box was filled and forwarded to Philadelphia; its contents being shirts, drawers, double-gowns, towels, &c., in addition to bedding and delicacies. It is but just to mention in this connection, that not only for Springville, but for most of the other societies, the boxes and barrels, used for packing, were generally the gift of the merchants; and, as a rule (though there were exceptions, as in Auburn,) consignments were carried free of charge to the nearest depôt, the Commission paying freight by railroad.

In December, 1863, M. H. Smith, who was Miss Scott's successor as secretary, made the first published report of the society, in which she stated:—

"The loyal ladies of Springville have been silent, heretofore, but they have not been, the while, inactive. They have been, with their sisters from Maine to Minnesota—

‘Plying the busy fingers
O'er the vestments old,’

for the relief of that *noble band of brothers*, who have been stricken in defence of their loved native land. This society has sent four boxes of sanitary stores to the Commission at Philadelphia."

Over one hundred dollars had been received by the treasurer, to the same date, including the avails of a supper given by the ladies in December. The next noted addition to their funds was made July 4th, 1864: the net proceeds of a festival, then held, amounted to \$215 77. An address was made on this occasion by Hon. B. Parke, LL.D. By the treasurer's report, July 1865, we learn that the total amount of money received was \$385.69.

The society consisted of twenty members. They prepared the following contributions:—

48 double-gowns, 24 bed-quilts, 63 shirts, 35 prs. drawers, 28 prs. slippers, 26 prs. socks, 25 pillows with 25 slips, 1 sheet, 20 linen towels, 20 pads, 143 handkerchiefs, 4 part-worn coats and vests, 4 boxes of lint, besides large quantities of old linen, cotton and bandages, with an amount of reading matter. 30¼ gallons of blackberry brandy and wine, 1¼ gallons grated horse-radish, 3½ gallons pickles, 1 bottle raspberry vinegar, 3 bottles currant-shrub, 11 jars, cans, etc., of jelly, and 2 cans honey, and 140 lbs. of dried fruit.

Society No. 2.—The ladies of Lynn had met from time to time, after the

call came for help for suffering soldiers; and, without electing officers, had prepared one box and one barrel, containing quilts, wrappers, dried-fruit, etc., and forwarded them to the Sanitary Commission, during the fall of 1863. On the 2d of December following, they duly organized, Miss E. Knapp, president, Mrs. O. Fish, treasurer, Miss Nettie Brown, collector, and Mrs. E. M. Phillips, secretary. Their meetings were held every Tuesday afternoon and evening.

June, 1864, they sent \$14.60 to the Philadelphia Fair. Their labors as a society continued through the summer, but their numbers were small, and they reported their progress "very slow;" but a box, filled with bedding, dried fruit, etc. (no particulars given), was made ready before the cold weather set in, when it was difficult for those living at a distance to attend, and the "Mite Meetings" were the only ones held through the winter. The receipts from these, added to \$10 received per Miss Walker, gave them a fund a little over \$21. An estimate of the total value of the consignments made by the society appears too low, being only \$75. But, in any case, it would not fully represent the labors of this section, contributions being sometimes sent to other societies. In 1864, the residents sent \$16 to the Montrose Aid, which, according to the wish of the donors, was forwarded to the Christian Commission.

AUBURN.

The first Soldiers' Aid Society was organized June, 1863, at New Laceyville, or West Auburn. Its officers were Mrs. John C. Lacey, president and treasurer; Mrs. John R. Lacey, secretary; and Mrs. Miles C. Lacey, corresponding secretary.

Few in numbers at all times, this society was yet vigorous, having at its head one of an indomitable and patriotic spirit. Before the organization of what was afterwards known as the Auburn Aid, contributions were received from distant portions of the township; but the resources of the society were soon limited to a small circle in the vicinity of the Tuscarora.

The cash receipts, previous to October, '63, were but \$32; but, with this capital, willing and industrious hands contrived to send to the Sanitary Commission three boxes filled with clothing, bedding, dried fruit, rhubarb wine, and other delicacies, and one firkin of cucumber pickles. A special call for the latter was made by the Commission about this time, and was promptly responded to by all the aid societies of the county. Sauerkraut, and kindred articles were thought to be preventive of scurvy, which, at that time, was infecting the soldiers in many places. Most gladly did persons of limited means devote portions of their gardens, the following season, to the culture of cucumbers and cabbages. There was even rejoicing whenever there was work for the soldiers which permitted children to have a share in it. They could pull weeds, pick lint and berries (though, after the first season, old linen was called for instead of lint), make scrap-books, patch bed-quilts, make and sell book-marks, etc., etc. Indeed, we may justly attribute the preservation of the life of many a soldier to the efforts of the little black-berry pickers in this county.

Before the 1st of November, 1864, the West Auburn society had collected and forwarded to the W. P. B. of the Sanitary Commission, 160 lbs. dried fruit, 2 gallons of blackberry syrup, 3 gallons of rhubarb wine, 2 bottles black-berry cordial, 1 bottle raspberry vinegar, 6 quarts dried sweet corn, 1 firkin pickles, 1 keg pickled cabbage, and 1 keg of apple-butter; besides making and contributing 34 shirts, 18 pairs drawers, 12 pillows and 18 cases, 16 arm-slings and pads, 1 dozen handkerchiefs, 3 towels, 5 pairs socks, 2 pairs sheets, 1 quilt, and 15 lbs. of cloth for dressings.

A pleasant feature of the work among the aid societies, was the occasional interchange of visits to their meetings, for mutual encouragement and cheer. In August, 1863, the secretary and the corresponding secretary of the Mont-

rose Aid were privileged to visit that of West Auburn. The earnestness and zeal exhibited by the ladies there was refreshing, and gave a zest to the twenty-eight miles of travel not soon forgotten.

In November, 1864, the funds of the society, almost entirely exhausted, were replenished through that dispensed by the associate manager, and, with fresh courage, the ladies continued their work, which had had some drawbacks, among these being a missent package; and disbanded only with the return of peace.

Society No. 2.—At a meeting of the citizens of Auburn, held at the Burch school-house, July 7, 1863, a soldiers' aid society was organized, and the following officers elected: president, Mrs. D. J. Raub; secretary, Mrs. H. J. Crawford; treasurer, Mrs. James Bunnel; executive committee, Mrs. E. A. Edwards, Miss M. A. Newman, Miss Henrietta Kinney, Miss I. P. Sterling, and Mrs. Job Green.

Within the first month, the new society were in receipt of \$25, only three-fifths of which were expended in preparing the first consignment, which consisted principally of dried fruit, pillows, and part-worn shirts, for hospital use, and the box was forwarded, without delay, to the W. P. B. The Gettysburg battles developed more freely the sympathies and energies of persons who had previously thought theirs taxed to the utmost; and the result was seen in the rapid increase of aid societies in efficient action.

Two or three months later, the Auburn society forwarded another box, the contents of which were very valuable, the garments being of new material, made up by the ladies, whose treasury had been replenished by the addition of more than \$100.

In April, 1864, guided by a circular received from Philadelphia, the society was reorganized, with Mrs. Daniel Cooley for president; Mrs. David Raub, Mrs. A. M. Sturdevant, Mrs. Charles Crawford, Mrs. Job Green, and Mrs. William Overfield, for vice-presidents (Mrs. Quinby afterwards supplying a vacancy); Mrs. John G. Taylor, secretary and treasurer.

To those acquainted with the residents of Auburn, it will be perceived that the officers of the society were widely separated, and, in fact, a large territory—not less than eight square miles—was covered by the society. But each vice-president served as a nucleus of influence in her particular locality, and the result gives proof of the efficiency of the plan adopted.

The following was the final report of the secretary and treasurer.

"The Auburn Soldiers' Aid forwarded to the U. S. S. C. (W. P. B.) 98 new muslin shirts, 16 part worn shirts, 15 new flannel shirts, 57 pairs drawers, 97 pairs slippers, 68 pairs drawers, 96 pillows, 100 pairs pillow cases, 16 dressing gowns, 22 sheets, 30 towels, 43 handkerchiefs, 9 arm slings, 3 pairs pads, 3 pairs pants, 45 fans, 3 linen coats, 330 lbs. dried fruit of different kinds, 11 bottles blackberry cordial, 9 bottles elderberry cordial, 7 bottles catsup, 8 bottles horseradish, 20 cans fruit, 12 tumblers jelly, 2 cans honey, 5 papers corn starch, 12 combs, a large quantity of bandages, 2 bbls. cotton and linen, containing 80 lbs. each, 20 lbs. butter, 1 tub butter, 2 firkins pickles in vinegar, 1 keg wine, containing 10 gallons, also, beans, onions, dried corn, sage, hops, vinegar, wine, etc., etc.

"Treasurer's Report.

"Sum total received	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	\$950 93
"Expenses	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	950 93"

Of their receipts, they paid the last \$20 for clothing for the widows and orphans of the soldiers.

During the summer of 1864, the "little folks" of Shannon Hill were at work under the title of the Alert Society, and contributed "a very nice patch-work quilt" to the aid society. About this time, Springville, and Clapper Hill, Bradford Co., contributed more or less to the supplies sent from Auburn.

An oyster supper, given at the house of Mr. Lott, Auburn Center, put

nearly \$50 into the treasury; indeed, throughout the county, oysters were of great use in furnishing means to enable the ladies to carry on their work.

The secretary, in making up her report, adds: "Our efforts have been attended with great inconvenience, and we have been called upon to make much sacrifice many times, from the fact that our society is very much scattered." And, with reference to the Montrose Aid: "I felt almost discouraged after I was at your rooms, and saw how much easier you could do a great deal than we could a little." This is quoted in order to exhibit in a stronger light, not the *little* but the *much* accomplished by those in farming communities, where rough roads and distance were formidable obstacles, but where their warm and generous hearts in the cause were strong enough to overcome them. But when the battles were over, their efforts relaxed, as did those of many others, while a few societies continued their work to the 4th of July following.

FOREST LAKE.

In response to the urgent solicitation of Miss S. M. Walker, July 6, 1863, the Misses Matilda and Miriam J. Wright consented to exert themselves to form a Soldiers' Aid Society in Forest Lake, and so faithfully did they fulfil their promise, that a society of twenty members was in successful operation two weeks later, the organization having been made July 11, when the sisters engaged to serve respectively as president and secretary. The latter wrote on the 20th of the same month to the associate manager:—

"Two barrels are nearly filled and will be ready to send this week, with a tub of butter. We intend to go on with the work, in which much interest is manifested throughout the community."

So successfully was this intention carried out, that the work went on until late in the summer of 1865.

Though up to October 9, 1863, only \$9.85 had been paid into the treasury (with which the ladies bought cotton cloth and made shirts, sheets, and pillow-cases,) they had managed to send articles amounting in value to \$56.64,¹ besides about a barrel and a half of dried fruit, which, being sent in different consignments and not weighed, was not estimated, nor was a tub of pickles; had these been properly appraised, better justice could now be done in comparing the results of the society's efforts with that of others. Still, this was a common practice; they looked more to see that proper articles were promptly forwarded than to reckon up the amount of the same. It was not until the aid societies were urged by the Commission to place estimates upon their consignments, that due attention was paid to the matter.

The interest taken by the community in general seemed somewhat to flag by the end of the first three months of the society's existence; still they met once in two weeks. It should have been stated before, that their labors for the benefit of the soldiers had begun long before their organization, their supplies being forwarded as a part of those of the Montrose Aid, to which at first most of the townships were tributary.

In 1864, the Forest Lake Society, in common with others, was in receipt of ten dollars per Miss Walker; and by a collection taken up at an evening meeting, and by private contribution, they were able to expend nearly \$25 in the purchase of flannel, which was made into shirts and drawers.

"There are enough ready hands to work," wrote the secretary, "if they only have the material;" and this expressed the condition of the societies everywhere at that time. The women could not do enough to give vent to their excitement, or to their sympathy with the state of their country and its loyal army; though war in itself was repugnant to each and every one of them.

¹ "Three tubs" are acknowledged from this society during October, 1863, in the Sanitary Commission Department of the 'Saturday Evening Post.'

The Great Central Fair at Philadelphia, June, 1864, received from the Forest Lake Society about \$30, including \$7 cash, a package of fancy articles worth \$7, 1 barrel of potatoes, and 1 tub of butter.

From the beginning to the close of their work, the ladies received in all some cents less than \$50. Of this sum \$28.29 were private contributions, and \$11.02 a thanksgiving collection; \$10 from the Taylor Hollow Society, and the balance was given them "to double;" which it may be safely said they did. From the whole amount (\$70) they made twenty-seven consignments to the commission, viz., 11 barrels (3 of clothing and fruit), 5 boxes ditto, 5 tubs of butter, 1 tub and 1 firkin of pickles, 1 keg of fruit and 1 of onions, with 2 packages worth \$12.40, besides the cash donation to the fair.

Surely, in view of Miss Walker's solicitation, we may say, "A word spoken in due season, how good is it!"

In the summer of 1864, the ladies in the vicinity of Birchardsville, in the township of Forest Lake, contributed for the benefit of sick and wounded soldiers two boxes and one barrel of clothing and delicacies; but they had no organization.

In the fall of 1864, at Taylor Hollow, Miss Carrie L. Vail exerted herself to interest the ladies near the southern line of the township in organizing an aid society, of which she was made the president; Miss Mary Taylor, vice-president; Misses Maria A. Vail and Cynthia T. Carr, secretaries. When they began their work (which was before their organization) they expected only to fill one box, but after becoming interested and united, they anticipated permanent effort; but the failing health of the president of the society obliged her to relinquish her labors after the third consignment in three months, and the other members not choosing to assume responsibility, confided their fund, \$10 (per Miss Walker), to the society near the Lake.

FRIENDSVILLE AND FOREST LAKE SOCIETY.

The township of Middletown had no aid society, and Mrs. J. C. Morris, then residing there, interested herself early in July, 1863, in engaging Mrs. Dr. N. Y. Leet, and other ladies of Friendsville, to unite with those of the northwestern part of Forest Lake, to form an organization in behalf of suffering soldiers. They responded promptly, and July 20, 1863, they elected the following officers: Mrs. Fred. Hollister, pres.; Mrs. E. S. Hosford, treas.; Mrs. Martha D. Leet, sec. Mrs. James Stone and others on Stone Street were actively interested. "The society organized with becoming spirit, but sickness checked their operations," and but three consignments are mentioned, of which the estimates given in Dr. C. C. Halsey's report for the county were \$134.10. But in the 'Saturday Evening Post,' in which the commission made its acknowledgments at first, the Friendsville Aid is credited for four barrels in October, 1863. These probably included one sent from Lakeside, Choconut, the contents of which are not given. The others contained bedding, clothing, etc., and fruit. Of the last there were 117 pounds; currant jelly, 39 pounds; canned strawberries, 7 pounds; tea, 1 pound; and 1 half barrel pickles also given.

This society sent \$18 to the Grand Central Fair.

FRIENDSVILLE AID.

A distinct organization was formed by the ladies of Friendsville, in January, 1864, with the following officers: Mrs. Nelson Griffis, president; Miss Mattie Brainard, treasurer; and Mrs. F. Foster, secretary and corresponding secretary. These, with four or five other members, comprised the society, and the secretary in making her report, August 9, 1864, wrote of "many disadvantages," adding, "but I trust that even the little we are able to do, may, in the hands of our noble Sanitary Commission, be productive of much good." At that time it appears that at least one barrel had been filled and forwarded,

as she says: "We send another barrel this week, and are doing all in our power to prepare a large quantity of fruit." That this effort was successful, is seen in the fact that they sent 12 pounds of currants dried in sugar, besides 24 pounds of other kinds of dried fruit, and 6 gallons of blackberry wine, with 7 cans of blackberries and cherries. Of bedding and clothing they sent 12 quilts and comfortables, 20 feather pillows, and 2 hop pillows with cases, 4 sheets, 2 dressing-gowns, 11 pairs socks, 3 shirts, 1 pair drawers, 16 pads and arm-slings, 8 handkerchiefs, 1 pair slippers, lint, old linen and muslin. They sent the Grand Central Fair articles valued at \$50. Total estimate, \$141.30. Here as elsewhere the workers were represented in the army, and some of these, alas, by prisoners of war, one of whom "died at Andersonville."

The ladies of Choconut were contributors to this society.

CLIFFORD.

At Clifford Corners an aid society of twenty-five members was organized, July 30, 1863, Mrs. Doctor Gardner, president; Mrs. M. C. Stewart, secretary; Miss Amanda M. Wells, corresponding secretary; Miss R. L. Halstead, treasurer (succeeded by Miss Persis K. Stevens). Two committees were appointed, one on supplies (changed every month), and another permanent (Mrs. William Johnson and Mrs. William Lott), on packing. They agreed to work three hours each week, either at home or at the society meeting. At the second meeting, thirty-three ladies were present. The secretary, writing of this meeting to the associate manager, said:—

"They all seem to commence the work with energy, and a determination to do something for the cause we have so long neglected. We have for sometime felt it to be our duty to do something for our suffering soldiers, but, knowing the loss and misuse of articles sent by private boxes, we have remained inactive. But your timely letters and papers have opened a way for us, and we feel under great obligations to you for giving us the opportunity of throwing in our mite for the holy cause."

This letter being shown to the committee in Philadelphia, it was published in the Sanitary Commission Department of the 'Saturday Evening Post,' and the editor added: "We shall watch with peculiar interest the progress of the Clifford Aid." This was certainly a stimulus to exertion, and the ladies nobly met the apparent requisition. Within the first two months their number enrolled was nearly fifty. Within the year they had forty meetings, and made ten consignments to the Sanitary Commission:—

4 barrels and 4 boxes valued at	\$297 06
1 tub butter	10 00
1 box to the Grand Central Fair (including 1125 cakes maple sugar)	131 29
Making a total result for first year of	\$438 35
On reorganizing the second year at Mrs. C. D. Wilson's (twenty-two ladies present), it was agreed to meet once a fortnight, with a five cents fine for absence. Twenty-five meetings were held, and the whole value of articles sent was	335 98
Total of sixteen consignments	\$774 33

(In these were included 12 gallons blackberry brandy, \$48; three boxes clothing etc., 1 cask and 1 firkin of pickles.)

The secretary wrote again, expressing a sentiment common to all the societies: "Oh, it is sweet to think that perhaps even our feeble efforts have saved one life, and made one home glad that would otherwise have been desolate."

There were but fifteen members at the close of the work, but their record would not shame a larger number.

A festival, a young people's exhibition, and a refreshment stand, had furnished funds additional to collections made by the society. To these must also be added \$11, per Miss Walker; it was on the reception of \$10 of this that the secretary wrote her: "It came just in the right time and in the right way, to give us a new impetus in the right direction, as your favors always do;" and this statement will be indorsed by the societies of the whole county.

Among the results of the industry of this society, in the absence of a full statement, we give: "243 pounds dried fruit, 50 cans of fruit, 72 arm-slings, 83 shirts, 47 drawers, 7 quilts," and smaller articles in proportion.

ARARAT.

Rumors early reached the associate manager of the interest taken by some of the ladies of Ararat in supplying suffering soldiers with comforts and delicacies, and she promptly communicated with Mrs. Mary Kingsbury Tyler, who was known to have been one of the number. Her reply stated briefly the effort made in Ararat, jointly and individually, and added:—

"The reason that we have not formed a separate organization, is on account of the fewness and feebleness of our numbers. There are some here who will keep on doing to the best of their ability as long as there are suffering soldiers to aid."

In November, 1864, she wrote:—

"The number of those who would lend a helping hand has been sadly reduced by death and removals, and I find if anything is done it will be by the personal exertions of one or two females in the decline of life. My age (within a few weeks of seventy) and feeble health prevent my doing as much as I could wish. I have felt that whenever I could knit a pair of socks, or furnish a pair of pillow-cases, they should not wait when aid societies were all around us."

A month later:—

"The money kindly furnished by you was expended in buying material to work up, and on the day appointed, quite a number of ladies met here and made or nearly made it up. Most of them brought something besides, and some displayed commendable liberality, but did not conclude it was best to organize a society."

In other districts there was no organization from causes not dissimilar to those that operated in Ararat. Here, in addition, should be mentioned the bad state of the roads in winter, which prevented frequent meetings even had there been a larger number interested in the work. But to show that earnest hearts overcame difficulties—having the spirit if not the letter of an aid society—the following is quoted from Mrs. Tyler's report:—

"During the first year of the war, a box was sent from here weighing nearly four hundred pounds. In it were fifty pairs of socks, also pillows, cushions, pillow-cases, sheets, bedquilts, wrappers, drawers, etc. I would say that some individuals from Thomson contributed some articles for which they should be credited, but I cannot tell how much. No accounts were kept. After that Mrs. E. B. Wilson (the wife of our pastor) collected clothing, dried fruit, etc., perhaps to the amount of \$20, and sent to the Soldiers' Aid at Montrose.

"In the autumn of 1864, we furnished a small box (with aid from the associate manager) valued at about \$30, something over, I think. In the spring of 1865, with further assistance from her, and with something gained by an oyster supper, we sent \$25 to the Commission at Philadelphia. In June, following, my daughter-in-law and myself sent \$7 more. There have been a *few* individual donations in money; I cannot say how much. Our large box was sent to Washington, the other to the W. P. Branch."

Total estimate of boxes and other donations, as per Dr. Halsey's report, \$282.

THOMSON.

The reports of soldiers who had returned from hospitals where no gratuitous aid had been furnished, probably discouraged effort in Thomson. The contribution to the Ararat box is all that has been reported.

HERRICK.

At the foot of the eastern slope of Elk Mountain, a society was organized through the personal solicitation of Miss Walker, in the summer of 1864; Mrs. Thomas Burns, president, and the Misses Jennie A. and Orpha E. Dart, secretaries. The two sisters had two brothers in the army—one of them a prisoner, as they afterwards learned, at Andersonville, where he died the same season. It is not singular, then, that they "needed no second appeal to work for our poor suffering ones." Others united with them, perhaps a dozen attending on an average the meetings of the society. The treasury is reported as being "generally empty;" still, a box was filled and forwarded to the W. P. B. in August, 1864, by means of a very praiseworthy species of barter, where dairy farmers could more easily bring *butter* than cash, and the contributions made by them were paid to the merchant for muslin, etc., to be made into garments for hospital use.

In the fall of 1864, the receipt of \$10, per Miss Walker, gave the West Herrick Society the means, six weeks later, to send a box principally of dried fruit and delicacies, valued at \$27.84, and a firkin of pickles. The reception of these was promptly acknowledged by Mrs. Plitt, of the W. P. B., who added:—

"I think Susquehanna will be the banner county in her efforts to relieve the sufferings of our soldiers in this hated rebellion. She never tires. Her loyal women are always on the alert, always doing, always giving."

The Welsh citizens of Herrick, Clifford, and Gibson contributed liberally to societies in these townships, but no aid society was established by them as a community; this, among those accustomed to work as a distinctive body, is another mark of the delightful *oneness* of feeling that characterized co-workers for the Sanitary.

UNIONDALE.

September, 1863, the ladies in the southeast corner of Herrick contributed generously to a box sent from Montrose. In the fall of 1864, the Uniondale Aid Society reported, Mrs. M. A. Arnold, president and treasurer; Mrs. D. D. Reynolds, secretary, and Mrs. M. Dimmick, Mrs. S. Miller, and Mrs. L. Coleman, solicitors.

They contributed at least one box of bedding, clothing, and dried fruit, valued at \$32, and \$7.50 cash, which was returned to them, with \$10 from Miss Walker's fund, to be doubled. The total estimate is given at \$54.70.

Through the winter, storms and bad walking made meetings of the society impracticable, but the secretary wrote, "The little we can do we will do, thanking God we are permitted to labor in so worthy a cause."

JACKSON.

Before a soldiers' aid was organized here, contributions to the value of \$75 to \$85 had been forwarded for the comfort of soldiers. The first regular meeting was held August 1, 1863. During the next ten or eleven months, the society, small in the beginning and growing smaller, still were able to send to the W. P. B. four barrels, three of them filled with fruit, wine, bedding, and clothing; one with vegetables.

An ice-cream and strawberry festival was held at the hotel in Jackson, on the afternoon and evening of the fourth of July, 1864, the net proceeds of which were \$105. Of this sum the society appear to have made good use within the remaining ten months of their organization, as the total amount of consignments for the benefit of soldiers is given thus : eight barrels, one box of canned fruit, one keg of strawberry wine, one keg of blackberry syrup, one tub of butter—the whole valued at \$313.82. The members of the society were separated by distance and met only once in two weeks, and sometimes not as often. The officers were : Mrs. James A. Bingham, president ; Mrs. S. M. Foster, corresponding secretary ; Miss Jane Nason, recording secretary ; Mrs. G. W. Slaysman, and Mrs. E. Tucker, treasurers in succession.

The North Jackson Aid Society, Mrs. P. Hall, secretary, is incidentally mentioned by the secretary of the former, but no account of its operations was ever made to the associate manager for the county.

GIBSON.

The Soldiers' Aid Society of Gibson was organized the 8th of August, 1863, with the following officers : Mrs. Ellen Whitney, president ; Mrs. W. T. Read, vice-president ; Miss O. D. Tuttle, secretary ; J. G. Stiles, treasurer ; directors, Mrs. C. P. Hawley, Mrs. S. S. Ingalls, Mrs. C. P. Edwards, Miss Eleanor Read. On the 12th of September, 1863, a box was made ready for the W. P. B., and another on the 3d of October following. Their contents were : Feather pillows, woolen sacks, handkerchiefs, hop pillows, one comfortable, six double gowns, pillow cases, shirts, drawers, lint and linen rags, 34 lbs. dried currants, 1 bushel of apples, 8 bottles of blackberry cordial and raspberry vinegar, besides various packages of dried fruit. It is unfortunate that no cash estimate was made of the value of these boxes before forwarding. Material for clothing had cost		\$56 22
Gibson sent to the Great Central Fair one box valued at \$100 and cash \$7 45		107 45
South Gibson sent a box to the Christian Commission, Sept. 1864.		
Gibson Hollow and Gibson Hill, a box to the same, November, 1864		23 00
Cash raised by subscription and sent to the Sanitary Commission, December, 1864		75 50
Collection on Thanksgiving Day, sent to the Am. Union Com. for refugees		45 40
Net proceeds of a festival, divided equally between the Sanitary and Christian Commissions		205 24
Total		\$512 81

[We are indebted to the pen of Hon. U. Burrows for intelligence of what was done for suffering soldiers after the disbanding of the Aid Society.]

In addition to his liberal cash subscription, George H. Wells sent one bbl. of onions.

Mrs. Burrows, Mrs. Read, Mrs. Ingalls, Mrs. Edwards, and Mrs. Kennedy were engaged in preparing the last box when they received \$10 from Miss S. M. Walker from the fund entrusted to her. This furnished them flannel, which they made up and forwarded to the Commission as above. Without estimates of a portion of the supplies, we have contributions to the value of more than five hundred dollars.

There is no common business centre in Gibson, business being distributed among four different places in the township ; this was "one cause that embarrassed the successful and regular working of a soldiers' aid society, and made the efforts of the people somewhat spasmodic."

LATHROP.

The ladies of Lathrop organized a soldiers' aid, August, 1863, in response to an appeal from the associate manager in behalf of the Sanitary Commission. From a letter to her written by the secretary we are permitted to quote:—

"We find a great amount of opposition, but the greatest difficulty is the unaccountable ignorance of many respecting the workings of the Sanitary Commission. We are met on all sides with, 'The soldiers will never get it; 'twill be devoured by surgeons and nurses;' then follows an account of 'boxes lost,' etc., which, of course, were sent to friends in regiments. If we can succeed in making them understand the difference between the U. S. Sanitary Commission and local 'Aid Societies,' we can do much more."

The officers first reported were: Mrs. Thayer, president (afterwards Mrs. I. A. Newton took her place); Mrs. Silvius, treasurer; Mrs. George Bronson, secretary; Mrs. J. M. G. Baker, corresponding secretary. The latter made strenuous exertions to secure the interest of others in the cause; and not wholly without success, as the report of supplies forwarded attest. Unlike many other societies, their efforts seem to have been far more abundant during the last six months prior to July, 1865, than at any previous time. This was owing, in part, to the encouragement received from the avails of the oyster supper given by the society at the house of Captain Lord, March 2, 1865. Notwithstanding a storm prevailed at the time, the receipts were \$125.13. Not long previous they received, per Miss Walker, \$10, and, before the close of their work, another \$10, "to be doubled." With a list before us of the articles sent to the Commission, we are constrained to feel that the total estimate, \$134.22, is much too low. Besides five barrels of vegetables, three firkins of pickles, five gallons of spiced cabbage, one ham, five quarts prepared horseradish, *a half bushel oats*, 4 lbs. hops, 7 lbs. old muslin, reading matter, and one or more small packages, there were 40 lbs. dried berries and peaches, and 8½ lbs. dried apples included with the consignments, which were even more directly the result of the industry of the ladies at their meetings, viz., 17 shirts, 5 pairs drawers, 4 quilts, 9 pairs socks, 1 dozen linen napkins, 8 towels, 5 pairs pillow cases, 2 pillows, and 2 hop pillows, 38 thumb stalls, 15 pads, and arm slings with splints, 15 lbs. bandages, 2 lbs. lint, 3 handkerchiefs, 1 cushion.

The operations of the society appear to have been in the central portions of the township, and principally along Horton's Creek.

LENOX.

The organization of the Glenwood Soldiers' Aid Society, November 26, 1863, and its successful operation, may justly be considered due to the efforts of Miss Jessie Hartley, its secretary. Miss Sarah J. Hartley was chosen president, and Miss C. Conrad, treasurer. At the first three or four meetings only five or six ladies were present; but, at the fifth meeting, nine convened. The former number was the average attendance. Two ladies volunteered to go through a portion of the township of Lenox and solicit contributions, the result of which was a consignment to the W. P. B., December, 1863, of which the modest valuation was less than \$20. Several persons refused to assist, with the plea that the articles sent would never reach the soldiers, but be appropriated dishonestly. In view of this the secretary thought that "perhaps their misgivings might be allayed through the medium of the county papers, if some persons in possession of facts concerning the benefit done by other aid societies of our county should consider the matter of sufficient importance to publish them."

In reply to this the associate manager published, in the 'Montrose Republican', statements that were considered satisfactory. The ten members of the

Glenwood Society were able, on the 23d of June, 1864, to forward the second barrel of supplies, when the treasurer reported *forty cents* remaining in the treasury—"all our capital—for we have nothing beside; not the smallest scrap of anything whatever was left;" and yet, one month later, the forty cents had swelled to forty dollars. The latter constituted the proceeds of an oyster supper given by the ladies. Often was there "not a scrap left," after consignments by other societies; but *faith and works* soon brought in a new supply for succeeding demands.

In the fall of 1864 the Glenwood Society received \$10 from the fund disbursed by Miss Walker, and, in acknowledging it, a just tribute was paid to her as a laborer in the cause "in which," says the secretary in a letter to Miss W., "you have and are still performing a part unparalleled, as far as I have known, in noble results."

For some months previous to October 28, 1864, no meetings had been held, and yet, up to that time, having been in receipt of only \$66.70 in cash, the society had forwarded 117 lbs. dried apples, 52 lbs. dried berries, currants, etc., 3½ bushels of green apples, 12¼ lbs. butter, 5 gallons pickles, 12 cans fruit, etc., 10 gallons blackberry brandy (valued at \$40), 1 bottle wine, besides the bedding, socks, etc., making a total value of about . \$90 00

Cash sent to G. C. Fair, per Mrs. F. P. Grow 24 00

Individuals in the northern part of Lenox, who at one time contributed, through Mrs. Lucy Z. T. Oakley, to the Glenwood Aid Society, had, at length, March 27, 1865, an organization of their own, by the distinctive appellation of the "Lenox Soldiers' Aid;" of which the following report was given, not long afterwards, in the columns of the 'Republican':—

"We had almost concluded our numbers too small and scattered, most of whom had sent forth their companions, brothers, and sons, thus leaving them to struggle alone in rather destitute circumstances. But the call to aid our released prisoners could not be passed by without notice. The cause being earnestly presented before the community, an appointment was made for the organization of a society for this object. Accordingly, on the 27th March, a few wended their way to the 'Old Red School House,' and, after calling to order, made choice of Mrs. D. E. White, president; Miss Cordelia Tingley, vice-president; Mrs. Lucy Z. T. Oakley, secretary; Miss J. Lord, treasurer; appointed Saturday, April 1, for our next meeting at the house of D. C. Oakley. At this meeting committees were appointed to visit and solicit funds. Thus we have met each week, at places designated by the society, and have had our hearts cheered as our numbers have doubled every meeting. We have, with united effort, been able to fill one barrel containing various articles, such as shirts, drawers, socks, slippers, handkerchiefs, pillow, pillow-cases, thread, bandages, 1 quilt, sheet, combs, housewife, dried apples, dried berries, dried beef, sugar, tea, butter, onions, and a quantity of reading matter. Also, one keg of pickles ready for use. All valued at \$45.20."

One barrel, one box valued at about \$15, and one keg of pickles—the sum total of their consignments (as the work of the Sanitary Commission closed in July) does not represent the value of their organization to themselves or to others. It was a self-sacrificing effort made by a scattered community, at a season when their energies were taxed to the utmost for the erection of a house of worship. The secretary wrote respecting those connected with the Aid Society: "Many that have contributed to it were really needy themselves;" and of their church enterprise: "Having always met in a school-house, and that becoming very poor, we *need, greatly need*, a house more comfortable." This was not the *only* instance in the county where a neighborhood struggling to secure a comfortable (not luxurious) house of worship, supplemented their work with effort for the Sanitary Commission; but of such spirits are most good enterprises begotten.

LIBERTY.

In response to Miss Walker's appeal, July, 1863, for organized effort here, the following reply was given by a lady who contributed through the societies of other townships, prior to the formation of a soldiers' aid in Liberty:—

"I would gladly do anything I could, but the people here are so friendly to the South, they will not hear nor do anything."

This is not quoted to revive old prejudices, but to state the facts as they existed at the time; it was not only in Liberty, but in other localities, such a state of things existed, to ignore which, would be to hide from view the greatest difficulty then encountered by the loyal women in prosecuting their work through the U. S. Sanitary Commission. Then, too, they had their own griefs. It was painful to see a man drafted, being unable to serve, and yet being obliged to pay his \$300 to stay at home; but there were women who could bear to see this even in their own families, and still exert themselves for those who had been able to answer their country's call. It is only by considering these and kindred circumstances, that one can rightly estimate the sacrifice made by the ladies in sustaining a soldiers' aid society.

Miss Walker, accompanied by three officers of the Montrose Aid, had met the ladies of the township at the Baptist church, and incited them to organize, January 13th, 1864, under the name of Lawsville Center Aid. Mrs. D. Stanford was elected president; Mrs. Garry Law, vice-president; Miss Edna M. Cowles, treasurer; and Miss M. A. Smith, secretary.

After the third meeting the secretary wrote of very "good success," and as if sanguine that an increase of interest would be felt in their undertaking; but "the members were widely scattered, and it was with much difficulty they could get together. Then came reports that the Commission did not make good use of the means put in their hands. Mrs. Stanford was energetic and faithful, but there was very little responsive activity. The last effort that she made to get the society together, only two members met with her, and the notice of the meeting was read in the Baptist and Presbyterian houses." With all this array of discouragement, it is gratifying to know that the organization was far from being non-efficient. Though the cash capital amounted, in all, to but \$41, of which \$9 were returned to the associate manager at the close of its operations, \$32 were so judiciously invested as to be much more than quadrupled in the value of the supplies forwarded by the society. The first box was not estimated, but it must have been quite valuable, containing 9 quilts besides 60 minor articles. It was sent April 7th, '64. The next, July 9th, following, was valued at \$39.84. A firkin of pickled cucumbers was forwarded, November 26th, and one of sauerkraut, December 30th, '64. The last box was filled and sent February 17th, 1865, after which the society appears not to have been in active operation, though it was not formally closed until July 1st of the same year. The total estimate then made of their contributions was \$135. Remnants were made into garments for the freedmen.

RUSH.

During the fall of 1863, Mrs. Dr. Dunham called upon a number of the ladies of Rush to notify them of the appeal of Miss Walker, for their united efforts for the relief of suffering soldiers; but, it was not until the 16th of February, 1864, that the ladies met and effected an organization. This was at the residence of N. Granger, Esq., and Mrs. Dunham was called upon to preside, after which the following officers were elected: Mrs. Amos Sherwood, president; Mrs. Loring Hewen, secretary; Mrs. Norman Granger, treasurer; Mrs. C. Perrigo, solicitor for the north district. The other districts, outside of the one in which the meeting was held, were not represented. The resolutions then adopted show that after-meetings were held upon a different plan from that in Montrose and some other places, where a room was

secured for the purpose, and no one was burdened to furnish a supper for the workers. The afternoon and evening of every alternate Thursday was appointed for their meetings, which were to be held from place to place upon invitation, according to the 2d resolution which concluded thus: "Our hostess shall give us nothing but plain, soldiers' fare for our supper, and no refreshments in the evening." A "mite" was required of every person coming in, in the evening; and the sum thus raised was not inconsiderable, as the young people understood that *play* and not work was intended.

During the first nine months after organization the society received, in cash, \$194.72; and the estimated value of the consignments to the W. P. B. for the same time was \$313.20.

These included only the results of labor in 1864.

In March, 1865, another valuable box was forwarded, the cash receipts through the winter having greatly increased; and just two months later the last consignment was made, the last "mite" collected, (nearly \$300 being the total amount of cash receipts) and the work was closed up by sending \$51.75 (the balance in the treasury) to the Freedmen's Fund at the Am. Baptist Home Mission Rooms, Nassau Street, N. Y. This, or a similar, disposal was made of the funds remaining with other soldiers' aid societies upon their regular disbanding.

The total contents of the boxes filled during fifteen months bear testimony to the activity and patriotism of the ladies of Rush. Besides 4 firkins of pickles, 26 gallons blackberry syrup, 118 lbs. dried fruit, 36 cans of fruit, 12 bottles horseradish, with smaller quantities of various articles of diet, there were made or contributed 73 pillows and 19 cases, 8 sheets, 6 bed quilts, 59 shirts, 40 prs. drawers, 44 prs. socks, 24 dressing-gowns, 34 towels, 119 handkerchiefs, 21 arm-slings and pads, 114 needlebooks and "housewives," and several miscellaneous articles of clothing, and large quantities of old linen bandages, and reading matter accompanied them.

EAST RUSH.

Prior to September, 1864, the ladies near Eddy church had attempted something in the way of a separate organization, Miss Maggie Bertholf, president, and Mrs. Frederick Fargo, treasurer and secretary, but their contributions found their way to the Women's Penn. Branch, via Montrose and Dimock Aids, and were not estimated. Mrs. Fargo herself, a soldier's wife with three children, wrote of their discouragements:—

"Our place is so full of soldiers' wives and widows, and fatherless children, that it is hard to do much, but we will try to do more, though it is my daily prayer that our labors may not be needed long, but that the brave soldiers may soon return to be nursed by wife, sister, or mother."

On the 30th of November, 1864, encouraged by the receipt of ten dollars per Miss Walker, and by the helping hand of the minister of their parish, the ladies had a meeting at Mrs. Fred. Fargo's, and reorganized by electing Mrs. James Fargo, president; Mrs. J. More and Mrs. Fred. Fargo, vice-presidents; and Mrs. J. M. France, secretary; the N. E. corner of Auburn being represented. This society continued in operation through the winter, and sent to the W. P. B. bedding, clothing, dried fruit, scrap-books for convalescents, etc. etc., amounting to more than \$80. They sent to the Christian Commission \$10 cash.

The associate manager of the county, and three representatives of different aid societies, visited this society at the house of E. W. Gray, in East Rush, February 11th, '65, encountering drifts that made the effort perilous; but it was rewarded at last by a welcome from a group of ladies earnestly at work for the soldiers. The society sustained itself under difficulties that would have wholly disheartened members less enterprising and patriotic.

JESSUP.

The party mentioned in the foregoing paragraph, proceeded to Jessup, where, two hours later, they found a company of forty gathered at the "Bolles school house," where needles and shears were busy. On the previous evening a mite society, tributary to the aid, was held in the same township, and twenty dollars were collected and added to their treasury.

In four months the Jessup Aid had forwarded three consignments, and the fourth was ready.

The associate manager read here, a letter from Mrs. Grier, of the Commission, relative to the statements afloat derogatory to its reliability. The reply made by Miss Ellen Mitchell to an inquiry respecting her own observation of the workings of the Commission, was also given. Here we quote the account given by one of the visitors: "Then followed a novel 'tea-taking.' Since the days when we went, basket in hand, making our early essays up the Hill of Science, we had not feasted in a school-house; and, not then, as now, with the bountifully spread table enlivened by the contents of the 'hissing urn,' or its less pretending substitute. By the way, why would it not be well for all the district societies to follow the plan of Jessup—meet in the forenoon, have a picnic dinner, and spend the whole day, once a fortnight?"

The mite society of Jessup was organized Jan. 15, 1864, by electing L. B. Pickett, president; Edgar W. Bolles, secretary; Fannie Cornell, collector; and Libbie Baldwin, treasurer.

For nine months this was the only effort made to obtain funds for the relief of sick and wounded soldiers; but it was the most efficient one of the kind in the county, mite societies in almost every other instance, being simply auxiliary to regular aid societies. This society held eighteen meetings, at which the whole amount collected was very nearly two hundred dollars. (\$199.15.) The last meeting was held April 7th, 1865.

The Jessup Aid Society was organized in the Bolles school house (District No. 4), October 28th, 1864, by the election of Mrs. Dr. Bissell for president; Mrs. Sally Bolles, Cordelia Bolles, Mrs. Mary Wheelock, Mrs. Kate Olmstead, Mrs. Amy Blasdell, vice-presidents; Miss V. M. Chatfield, recording secretary and treasurer; and Miss Jessie Bissell, corresponding secretary.

The society met weekly until Christmas, when they had prepared two barrels of clothing, dried fruit, etc., for the Sanitary Commission, and one firkin of pickles, which together were valued at \$95.73. Their great success, in so short a period, was due to the fact that the mite society, after sending \$72.64 to the Philadelphia Fair, had given into their hands \$40; which, with an equal amount collected by E. W. Bolles on election day, (Nov. 8, 1864), and \$10 from the fund held by Miss Walker, gave them advantages at the outset, enjoyed, it is believed, by no other society.

After New-Year's, 1865, the meetings were semi-monthly only, but by the 11th of March following, two more barrels were packed and forwarded to the Commission. The society then had thirty-eight members, and the secretary wrote: "There seems to be a lively, persevering interest manifested in its behalf. We have many a willing heart and hand to aid in this good cause."

It is but just, in writing of woman's work in our county during the war, to attribute much of its efficiency to the pecuniary aid furnished by the stronger sex. Indeed, in very many ways were we indebted to them, and in none more than as they made us feel their confidence in our success.

The greater part of the Fire Hill District contributed to the East Rush Society. Prior to Oct. 1864, Jessup had sent liberal supplies to the Montrose Aid, and also directly to soldiers, but no cash estimates were then made. But, aside from these, the cash donations from individuals, and from

the mite society, with the contributions to the G. C. Fair, and in material to the Jessup Aid, formed an aggregate value of \$788.37. This was gathered in eighteen months, and from one of the smallest townships.

DUNDAFF AID.

At the request of Miss S. M. Walker, Mrs. C. Poulson and daughter made the first effort towards an aid society in Dundaff, Oct. 1864. The latter, with several young girls, organized themselves into a committee of solicitation and raised \$14. Mrs. P. called at nearly every house in the village, meeting, in almost every instance, with ready encouragement from the ladies, who met soon after at Miss Wells', preparatory to an organization. This was fully effected, Oct. 21, 1864, with the following officers: Mrs. Sylvester Johnson, president; Mrs. A. Wilbur, Mrs. Bennet, Mrs. A. Phelps, Mrs. J. Hodge, Mrs. Slocum, vice-presidents; Mrs. J. Slocum, secretary and treasurer. Cutting and packing committees were also appointed.

The labors of these committees in all societies were very arduous, and on this account, the members took them in turn, in most cases. At Dundaff they were permanent. Miss Sally Wells, Mrs. Phelps, Mrs. Lamoreaux, Mrs. J. Weaver, and Mrs. R. Phinney, being the cutting committee; and Mrs. Rogers, Mrs. Mills, Mrs. Dr. Reed, Mrs. Morris, and Miss Louisa Johnson, committee on packing.

A room over a store was prepared for the use of the society, and considerable interest was soon evinced by the people of the borough and vicinity. A Christmas supper given by the ladies netted \$103.76. The gifts in poultry, etc., had been very liberal. From other sources \$27.35 were received during the month, and the work progressed well through the winter; 1 firkin of butter, besides small packages; 1 firkin of pickles; 1 barrel dried apples; 3 boxes, containing bedding, clothing, fruit—green, dried, and canned; 43 arm-slugs and pads; 2 jugs grated horse-radish (tearful eyes!); 21 "housewives" with towels, handkerchiefs, etc., and a variety of other articles for hospital use. The total estimate given, \$161.35, is altogether too low.

The principal part of the butter was sent in the summer of 1865, \$10 from Miss Walker being doubled in this investment. The money remaining in the treasury at the close of operations was given to a family in the place, the father of which had died in defence of the Union.

SILVER LAKE.

Brackney Soldiers' Aid was in operation late in 1864.

On the 27th of December the ladies gave an oyster supper at the house of Mr. William Gage, in Brackney, for the purpose of adding to their funds for carrying out the great work in which they had enlisted. They acknowledged the receipt of \$51, as the avails of the supper, with thanks for the willingness of the people to contribute for the soldiers, adding, "We hope they will continue to sustain us in our undertaking, until there are no more sick and wounded soldiers to care for." Mrs. ISAAC GAGE was secretary.

Previous to this organization the ladies of Silver Lake had contributed to the Montrose Aid.

EAST BRIDGEWATER.

A society of this name, of which Mrs. D. H. Wade was president, reported November 4, 1864, as having sent \$12.50 to the Sanitary Fair at Philadelphia, and to the Commission the following articles: 16 shirts, 8 pairs socks, 10 arm-slugs, 2 feather pillows and cases, 2 hop-pillows, 1 bottle blackberry wine, 2 packages dried apples, 3 packages dried berries, and a quantity of bandages and lint.

After receiving, in December, 1864, a donation of \$10 from the fund entrusted to Miss Walker, seven families of the neighborhood (quite in the northeast part of the town), assembled one evening in that month and resolved to double it and return in supplies to the Commission. Mrs. E. W. Hawley was chosen president, and Miss Lydia M. Stephens secretary. A sum of five or six dollars was subscribed at once, meetings were appointed semi-weekly, and each person attending was to pay ten cents to increase the fund. For want of other work the preparation of apples for drying was taken up. In January, 1865, we hear of them as engaged in making cotton shirts. In February following, the associate manager reports a visit to the society "with Rev. A. H. Schoonmaker, and some of the Montrose ladies, in S. Sayre's sleigh. The former addressed us ably, and a collection was taken up." This exhibits only one of the instances in which the reverend gentleman referred to served the soldiers' aid societies of the county, and where the associate manager was found cheering and encouraging feeble societies. Those organized late had been, in their individual members, for a long time contributors to the Montrose Aid or other societies. As an organization their contributions were estimated at \$115.

SOUTH BRIDGEWATER.

February 25, 1865, this society organized, after having very materially aided the Montrose Society, and in the few months of their existence made a good record. From mite societies held in the neighborhood, they received \$50: from Miss Walker's fund, \$10, and from other sources nearly \$10 more, during the first two months. They forwarded 1 firkin of pickles, 2 barrels potatoes, and 1 barrel containing 42 lbs. dried fruit, 1 peck green apples, 1 bottle horseradish, 9 comfort-bags, with 6 towels, needles, pins, thread, buttons, soap and combs; 3 pairs pantaloons, 4 pairs drawers, 3 pairs socks, 1 pair slippers, 6 shirts, 5 arm-slings, 14 handkerchiefs, 1 pillow, old muslin and reading matter.

Mrs. Naomi Barnes, pres.; Mrs. A. Butterfield, Mrs. H. Vail, Mrs. E. C. Wells, and Misses Josephine Vail and Florence Atherton, vice-pres.; Miss Emily H. Wells, sec. and treas.

The last mite society was held at the house of Mr. John F. Deans, July 20, 1865, and the avails were used for the purchase of provisions for the lodges instituted by the Sanitary Commission for the benefit of our disabled and returning soldiers.

A special plea had previously been published:—

UNITED STATES SANITARY COMMISSION, }
WOMEN'S PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH, }
1307 Chestnut St., PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 25th, 1865. }

*To the Aid Societies and Individuals contributing to the Philadelphia Agency of the United States Sanitary Commission:—*We wish to make an urgent appeal to you for aid in a work which we are sure will enlist all the sympathy of your hearts, and the earnest labor of your hands. By a recent arrangement of the work of the various branches of the Sanitary Commission, it has been made the duty of the Pennsylvania Branch to collect and forward all the supplies needed for our returned prisoners, who are now constantly arriving at Annapolis. They are coming to us from those terrible Southern prisons, starved and almost naked—many of them suffering from neglected wounds received on the day of their capture. Of all our noble soldiers, they deserve most of our grateful care. To the Pennsylvania Department has been given the honor of supplying the Sanitary Stores, for the relief of these poor victims of the rebellion.

Everything is needed. Clothing of all kinds, hospital slippers, towels, handkerchiefs, bandages, old linen and muslin in quantities, for dressing their wounds and sores; delicacies of every description, pickles, dried fruit, domestic wines, apple butter, etc. To each one of our faithful allies in this blessed work we would say,—Will you send what *your husband, your son, your brother*

would require were he one of those living skeletons who are appealing to us for help? We do not doubt your answer.

MARIA C. GRIER,

Chairman Executive Committee.

This proved a strong stimulus to all. "We shall work as if our fingers were winged," wrote one who had lost a precious brother in Andersonville prison; and this was the feeling of many others throughout the county. One or two more societies sprang into existence (Lenox No. 2), and as follows:—

DISTRICT NO. 5, BRIDGEWATER.

Late in March, 1865, the "Grant Aid Society" was organized here, by electing Miss S. J. Harrington, president; Mrs. C. F. Watrous, secretary; Mrs. S. Watrous and Mrs. G. P. Wells, financial committee; and Mrs. M. L. Catlin and Mrs. Wells, cutting committee. Their first effort was to raise funds to buy oysters with which they gave a supper, April 7th following, and realized therefrom \$83.25. This sum, with \$10 from Miss Walker, enabled them to buy material for clothing. They met every Tuesday afternoon to make it up. Their last meeting was on June 27, '65, and the balance then in the treasury, \$5.35, was given to a soldier's widow. Their funds had been less than \$100, but with this they sent to the W. P. B. of the Sanitary Committee the following articles: 50 shirts, 19 pairs drawers, 2 bed quilts, 18 comfort-bags, filled with needles, pins, thread, buttons, etc.; 2 pairs pillows, and 3 pairs cases; 2 pairs socks, 20 handkerchiefs, 6 pairs slippers, with 3 bbls. potatoes, 2 firkins of pickles, and a quantity of tea, sugar, coffee (unweighed), popped corn, and reading matter. It may be safely said they doubled their capital; and we have their own statement that they were happy in their work.

At Heart Lake, the ladies though not regularly organized, accepted \$10 from Miss Walker's fund and doubled it in the purchase of butter, which they sent with three barrels of potatoes, and one barrel of dried fruit to the Sanitary Commission. Mrs. C. J. Curtis, Misses Cole and McCollum were efficient.

At last, the "cruel war was over," and the societies prepared to disband by the 4th of July, 1865. On that day a circular was issued by the Women's Pennsylvania Branch to the aid societies contributing to it, an extract from which is here given:—

"We thank you for your warm, earnest, and untiring co-operation, feeling that, if the Philadelphia Agency of the Sanitary Commission is able to look with grateful satisfaction upon results accomplished, the praise is largely due to you as faithful co-workers in this blessed ministry to the suffering. Our work is closing, dear friends, but shall we ever forget how our hearts have been knit together during its accomplishment? Our memories of these years will never perish. The sorrow and the agony cannot be forgotten; but, like a rainbow upon the storm, we shall look back with ever-returning joy to the help we were enabled to give to that most noble of instrumentalities for good, whose work has been so vast and so beneficent—the United States Sanitary Commission.

MARIA C. GRIER,

"Chairman Executive Committee."

The Sanitary and Christian Commissions turned over to the American Freedman's Aid the stores remaining on hand.

THE WOMEN OF SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY IN ARMY HOSPITALS.

"Unfearing she walks, for she follows the Lord.—
How sweetly she bends o'er each plague-tainted face,
With looks that are lighted with holiest grace!
How kindly she dresses each suffering limb,
For she sees in the wounded the image of Him!"

—From Gerald Griffin's *Tribute to his Sister*.

1. Miss Ellen E. Mitchell, of Montrose, went to Bellevue Hospital, May, 1861, and spent several weeks in preparation for the service of army nurse, under the auspices of the Ladies' Relief Association, New York city. In September following, she went to Union Hotel Hospital, Georgetown, D. C., for three months. January, 1862, she was sent by Miss Dix to St. Elizabeth Hospital, Washington, D. C., where she remained about six months, when she was called home by the death of her mother; after a few weeks she returned to Washington, and from there was sent to Point Lookout, Md. Here her position was very trying, and, after two months she came back to Washington, and served successively in the Warehouse Hospital, the Catholic church, and Union Hotel (Miss Alcott's ward). When the last named hospital was finally broken up, Miss Mitchell went to Knight's Hospital, New Haven, Ct., for three months, after which she spent ten months in the Treasury Department, at Washington; still holding herself in readiness for Miss Dix's orders. These sent her to the battle at Fredericksburg, where she remained until the place was evacuated, and then came to Judiciary Square Hospital, serving here until the close of the war.

She afterwards studied medicine in the Female Medical College, New York, graduating in 1870; practised one year in the Infirmary there, after which she established herself as a physician at Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, in the fall of 1871.

2. Miss Elizabeth Richards died in the service. [See Friendsville.]

3. Miss Laurie C. Gates, of Dimock, while a teacher to the freedmen at Lincoln Hospital, D. C., spent most of her leisure during fifteen months in voluntary service to the sick and wounded.

4. Miss Lydia A. Chamberlin, of Choconut, went to Columbian College Hospital, January 1, 1863. After three months there, she was sent to Knight's Hospital, where she remained until the following autumn, when she was obliged to come home to recruit. The next spring she went to Chester, Pennsylvania, performing hospital service a few weeks there, before she was sent to Chesapeake Hospital, Fortress Monroe. In August, she was called home, but returned to her post the following winter, and remained until August, 1865.

5. Miss Jane E. Bentley went, August, 1863, to Knight's Hospital, New Haven, and remained there until the following December, when she was sent by Miss Dix to Chesapeake Hospital, Fortress Monroe. Here she remained until August, 1865.

From September 4, 1866, she has occupied the position of matron in the Home for Orphan Children, at Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

6. Mrs. Mary Wootton, of Montrose, went to Georgetown, D. C., September, 1863, as matron in the Volunteer Officers' Hospital. A year later, at Miss Dix's request, she occupied a similar position at Elmira, N. Y., to the close of the war.

WORK FOR THE FREEDMEN.

From the report made April 7, 1868, by Miss S. M. Walker, to the W. P. Branch of the American Freedmen's Commission, we copy the following:—

"Though many of our self-sacrificing people felt they had already given to the soldiers all that could be spared, yet the officers of their aid societies in Montrose and Dimock reorganized for the freedmen, eleventh month, 1865, in prompt response to an appeal from the W. P. B. and Am. F. Commission.

"An aid society was also formed by the colored women of Montrose, second month, 1866. These three were the only societies formed in aid of the freedmen, but several of the adjoining townships and Harford contributed liberally towards the consignments forwarded by these societies. Small remittances in money have been received from ten townships, in response to letters addressed to the faithful auxiliaries of the Sanitary Commission.

"11th month, 1866, our kind friend, L. G. Parrish, offered to support a

teacher from Susquehanna County with our assistance. Amount collected to the present time, \$472.30."

Before the close of the school year, July, 1868, \$47.52 were added, making \$519.82.

As the teacher was engaged only five months of the first year, and four months of the second, her *salary* had been raised without Mrs. P.'s contribution; but the latter was needed for transportation, outfit, and incidental expenses. In the meantime a number of barrels of clothing had been forwarded to destitute freedmen, eight of which were from Dimock; one box went from Uniondale—the remainder from Montrose.

Miss Walker became responsible, November, 1868, *in behalf of Susquehanna County*, for the support of one teacher two years. The amount collected and forwarded in that time was \$748.68. This covered the salary for the number of months in which the teacher was actually engaged, and, with the sums contributed by the freedmen themselves, balanced the expenses of the Commission for Miss Chamberlin to July, 1870 (\$1268.50).

In October, 1867, Miss Walker had been elected a vice-president of the W. P. Branch of the American Freedmen Commission; but, after three years' service, was obliged, by failing health, to resign her position, and also the responsibility of securing funds for the support of a teacher.

Hitherto the following townships had contributed: Bridgewater (with Montrose), Dimock, Choconut, Forest Lake, Silver Lake, Apolacon, Jessup, Springville, Auburn, Rush, Franklin, Great Bend, New Milford, Harford, Gibson, Jackson, Brooklyn, Lenox, Clifford, Herrick, and Ararat. If anything was done by the townships not mentioned, it was not through the American Freedmen's Commission, or has not been reported. It is believed that agents for the American Missionary Association took up collections for the freedmen in several parts of the county. From November 2, 1866, to January 1, 1872, the Montrose Aid alone had collected and forwarded \$786.53, besides using \$94.20 for material which the society made into clothing for destitute freedmen. With a small later contribution, the amount raised by the county for the freedmen, since November, 1866, independent of agents' collections, is about \$1400.

TEACHERS TO THE FREEDMEN.

1. Miss Antoinette L. Etheridge, of Montrose, went to Beaufort, S. C., November, 1863, as teacher to the freedmen, under the auspices of the American Missionary Association. She remained in that vicinity until July, 1865, when she returned to the North. In the fall of 1866 she went to Fortress Monroe, taught four months, and was then sent to Augusta, Ga., where she taught four months before the summer vacation. In October, 1867, she went again to Fortress Monroe, and taught in that vicinity eight months; and, again, in the fall of 1868, remaining six months. Not long after her return home she engaged as teacher in the Orphans' Home at Wilkes-Barre; but she was too much worn to endure the position, and left at the close of the first term. Early in January, 1871, she was once more with the freedmen in Amelia County, Va., and remained until the following July; in the fall she resumed her labors there, but, after the summer vacation of 1872, went to Wallingford Academy, Charleston, South Carolina.

2. Miss Laurie C. Gates was a teacher at Lincoln Hospital, Washington, D. C., from May, 1864, to July, 1865, under the auspices of the American Missionary Association.

3. Emily C. Blackman went to Okolona, Chickasaw County, Mississippi, November, 1866, under the auspices of the Pennsylvania Branch of the American Freedmen's Union Commission, and supported by the Church of the Epiphany, Philadelphia. Her school was opened in response to the call of a Southern gentleman, Dr. J. E. Tucker, for teachers for his former slaves. There were then five hundred and four negroes, young and old, under his

supervision, and of these more than three hundred received instruction from two, three, and, for a time, four teachers in day and night schools, and in Sabbath-schools nine months. The working force of the plantation was greatly reduced in the fall of 1867, but still a large school was kept up seven months, ending July 1, 1868, when the writer returned to the North without the hope of resuming labors which had been at once the most arduous and the most joyous of her life. Members of that school who first learned there to write the letters of the alphabet are now teaching, each with a salary of \$50 per month; others have passed an examination which has permitted their entrance into Alcorn University, Mississippi.

4. Miss Lydia A. Chamberlin, of Choconut, went to Okolona, May, 1867, under the above auspices, to take charge of a plantation school five miles distant from Dr. Tucker's, but she taught in the latter several weeks before her own school-house was ready. Her labors were transferred, after the first vacation, to a school opened February, 1868, in the city of Okolona, by the Pennsylvania Branch of the American Freedmen Union Commission. The salary of Miss C. was secured by the contributions of Susquehanna County and of the freedmen attending the school.

5. In the fall of 1868 she returned to the same school, accompanied by her sister, Miss Carrie E. Chamberlin. Both taught there until June, 1869, and each succeeding winter and spring until November, 1871, when they were transferred to the school at Dr. Tucker's.

6. Miss Maggie S. Baldwin accompanied the Misses C. to their school at Okolona.

7. On the 1st of January, 1869, these ladies were joined by Miss Phebe E. Lewis. In December following the Misses Baldwin and Lewis took charge of the school at Dr. Tucker's, teaching until June, 1870, and resuming the same in the fall. They closed their labors there June, 1871.

SOLDIERS AND MILITARY MATTERS.

REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIERS WHO HAVE RESIDED IN SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY.—Asa Adams, at Bunker Hill; Jedediah Adams, six and a half years in the war; John Adams, lived to be 104 years old; Ezekiel Avery, Benjamin Babcock, — Babcock (Dimock), John Baker, Nathaniel Balcom, Joel Barnes, Nehemiah Barnes, Reuben Beebe, Amos Bennett, Elias Bennett, Abiel Bills, John Blaisdell, Nathan Brewster, Sr., in American and French Revolutions; Isaac Brown, — Brownson, Jonas Brush, Captain Ichabod Buck, Nathan Buel, Isaac Bullard, John Burnham, Joseph Button, Andrew Canfield, Captain Benjamin Case (Great Bend), Putnam Catlin, Benjamin Chamberlin, Daniel Chamberlin (Choconut), Moses Chamberlin, Wright Chamberlin (Gibson), Darius Cook, Ezekiel Cook, Ozem Cook, Henry Congdon, Dyer Crocker, John Darrow, Josiah Davis, Peter Dickey, Lieutenant David Dimock, Edward Dimmick, David Doolittle, Ezra Doty, Isaac Doud, Jonathan Edwards, John Eldred, James Eldridge, Stephen Ellis, Gabriel Ely, Pardon Fish, Simeon Foot, — Ford, Silas Fowler, — Fuller, Nathaniel Gates, George Gelatt, Asahel Gregory, Abner Griffis, Stephen Griffis, Timothy Hall, Israel Hewitt, Captain Bartlet Hinds, Dudley Holdridge, Seth Holmes, Garner Isbell, Joshua Jackson, Luther Kallam, Rufus Kingsley, drummer at Bunker Hill; Gershom F. Lane, Hezekiah Leach, Daniel Lawrence, Captain Luther Leet, Rufus Lines, Captain John Locke, of the Boston Tea Party, 1773; Ezekiel Maine, Nathan Maxon, Joseph McKune, Jesse Miles, — Miller, Josiah Mills, Almon Munson, Jonathan Newman, Patrick Nuang (?), Robert Nichols, Issachar Nickerson, David Olmstead, Hezekiah Olney, Thaddeus Peet, Joseph Potter, Captain Hazard Powers, Sr. (?), Henry Prunye, Joseph Raynsford, John Reynolds, Simeon Reynolds, Caleb Richardson, Jonathan Ross, Isaac Rynearson, Bristol B. Sampson, Samuel Scott, Zerah Scott, Westol Scoville, Ichabod Seaver, Christian Shelp, David Sherer, Christopher

Sherman, William Shufelt, Garrett Snedaker (N. Milford), Asabel Southwell (?), — Staples, Captain Jarah Stephens, William Stephens, Nathaniel Stewart, Clement Sumner, Lawrence Tarpining, John Thatcher, Thomas Thatcher, Esek Thayer, Joseph Thomas, Hosea Tiffany, Thomas Tiffany, Nathaniel Tower, Isaac Turrell, Moses Tyler, Elias Van Winkle, David Wakelee, Sylvanus Wade, Lemuel Wallbridge, Ephraim Warefield, Amos Webster, Jacob Wellman, Cornelius Westbrook, John Whitely, Enos Whitney, Thomas Williams, in American and French Revolutions, and lived to be 104 years old, dying in 1826; Barnard Worthing, Captain Samuel Wright, Simeon Wylie, Samuel Yeomans, Samuel Clark, Gideon Lyman. Total number, 140.

The earliest item found respecting military organizations in this section after its settlement, is the appointment by the governor, December, 1797, of Putnam Catlin as brigade inspector for Luzerne County. A year or two later, when it was feared the country was on the eve of a war with France, the inhabitants of this section were alive to the situation. In the 'Wilkes-Barre Gazette and Luzerne Advertiser,' about this time, appeared a notice to attract the attention of "ambitious, spirited, and patriotic young men, tired of lounging about their fathers' houses, and who wish to exchange a life of tasteless indolence for that of glory," offering them a chance to join the army.

The first military movement within the limits of Susquehanna County appears to have been in 1806, when the first militia training was held at Parkevale. There is special mention of trainings there in 1807-8. In the spring of 1808, there was a "muster and inspection" at Joseph Chapman, Jr.'s. Thomas Parke was then colonel, and Walter Lyon major of the 129th Regiment, Pennsylvania Militia. In 1811, at a military election, William C. Turrel was chosen lieutenant-colonel; Isaac Post and Asa Dimock, majors; Elias Bell, Hezekiah Leach, Hiel Tupper, Amos Tiffany, Seth Mitchell, Fred. Bailey, John Bard, and Calvin D. Cobb were early captains in this regiment; and at some time, probably, Rufus Fish, Jeremiah Spencer, and Jabez A. Birchard.

The war of 1812 furnished practical reasons for military duty. An "Appeal to Patriots," published in the Luzerne County papers in 1813, offered a bounty of \$16 (for an enlistment for three years), and three months' pay at \$8 per month, with one hundred and sixty acres of land. Those who enlisted for only eighteen months received no land.

SOLDIERS OF "THE WAR OF 1812," who were then or afterwards residents in Susquehanna County.—Colonel Fred Bailey, P. Turner Baldwin, Daniel Brewster, Billings Burdick, Calvin Corse, Gurdon Darrow, Zeph Eldred, S. B. Fessenden, Martin Hall, Jonathan Howard, Jesse Hale, David Hale, Nathaniel R. Locke, Joseph McKune, N. Norris, Major Isaac Post, A. H. Read (battle of Plattsburg), Enoch Smith, Luther Stanley, Ezra Sturdevant, *et al.*, Jonathan Treadwell, Wareham B. Walker, Samuel Wilson, Lieutenant J. B. Worden. Jairus Lamb and Hosea Benson were "ordered to stand a draft"—nothing further appears. Total number, 26.

Complaint of taxes increased as hostilities continued. May, 1814, bounty was raised to \$124, besides 160 acres. In the summer a call appeared in the Luzerne County papers (none were then established in Susquehanna County) for a meeting immediately after court, 23d August, at Edward Fuller's, "friendly to a restoration of peace or a more vigorous prosecution of the war."

The burning of the Capitol at Washington stimulated militia organizations. At a militia election in the summer of 1814, Fred. Bailey was elected colonel, Joseph Burgess, lieutenant-colonel; J. Slocum, and Benjamin Lathrop, majors.

Isaac Post was appointed inspector of 2d Brigade. From his diary we learn that, October 23, 1814, he "received orders for marching the militia, and set out for Wilkes-Barre on the 24th. Arrived at Danville, Pa., Nov. 1; with detachment of militia on the 13th; received orders to halt 19th; to

dismiss the detachment 21st; the whole discharged 24th and 25th same month." Colonel F. Bailey accompanied this expedition. It was held up to ridicule, while the militia were waiting for their pay until April, 1819, and afterwards, for its fruitlessness. Ezra Sturdevant, drafted from Harford or New-Milford, was left sick at Danville, died, and was buried with military honors. It is laughingly asserted that Major Post brought back one hand-rifle and one tin camp kettle as the spoils of this expedition.

After the war the old organization died out, and the 76th Regiment appears to have taken its place. Walter Lyon and Joseph Washburn were majors of this regiment, and Austin Howell, Job Tyler (afterwards colonel), Daniel Lathrop, and John Comfort, captains. In 1819, Daniel Lathrop was elected lieutenant-colonel of the same. I. Post declined a re-election as brigade inspector, and Samuel Thomas was chosen in 1823. The 2d Brigade, 8th Division, was composed of the 2d Regiment, Luzerne County, the 76th in Susquehanna, and the 70th in Wayne. Colonel Aden Stevens had command very early of a regiment composed of Bradford and Susquehanna men. At some time Francis Fordham was colonel of the 76th Regiment.

Luman Ferry was captain of an independent volunteer company formed in 1816. Several similar companies sprang up, among which we find the Harford Artillery, Captain Asahel Sweet, and also Obadiah Carpenter; a Rifle Company at Great Bend, Captain Jonathan Treadwell; the Choconut Infantry, Captain Goodsell; the Bridgewater Yeomanry Guards, Captain Benjamin Sayre, and later, Bela Jones, A. C. Luce, and Horace Smith; the Brooklyn Infantry and the New Milford Infantry, Captain Seth Bisbee; the Montrose Artillery, Captain H. J. Champion; the Susquehanna Troop, of which Fred. Stephens was orderly-sergeant, and Samuel Gregory, Hyde Crocker, Samuel Bard, captains; Montrose Rifle Grays, David Francis, captain; Springville Rifle Company, and Captain Canfield's Infantry (Middle-town?).

In 1824, nine companies united to form the 126th Volunteer Regiment, William Jessup, colonel; Saxa Seymour, lieutenant-colonel; B. Jones, adjutant; Stephen S. Jewett, and Simon S. Chamberlin, majors. For a few years succeeding military trainings were great occasions. Then came a lull, a sort of disrepute, while the question of temperance was prominent in the public mind. But the country was awake to the interests of the patriots of the revolution, and many availed themselves of the benefits of acts of Congress on their behalf.

In 1837, there was a revival of military matters. Colonel D. D. Warner was elected brigadier-general. Mention is made of the 76th and 136th Regiments—4 battalions; the Washington Guards, and Northern Guards Volunteer battalions, and 70th Regiment—2 battalions, Wayne County—with which Susquehanna was connected.

May, 1852, the Montrose Artillery procured a cannon.

SOLDIERS OF THE UNION ARMY, 1861-'65.

"An army composed of American citizens cannot be all generals, or captains; and although we may admire the skill and prowess of a great and successful leader, yet the humblest private in the ranks, who performs his duty as a faithful soldier—facing every danger with an undaunted heart, dedicating his best energies, and even life itself, to the service of his country—is as much a hero as the highest in command. He is equally entitled to the thanks and gratitude of his people; for, while his rewards are much less, his sacrifices and privations are usually far greater."—*From an address delivered on the Fourth of July, 1870, at Montrose, Pa., by Wm. M. Post, Esq.*

[Abbreviations. The letter *d* signifies died in the service, or in consequence of it; *w*, wounded; *k*, killed.]

ARARAT.—Andrew J. Archer, Geo. W. Archer, Thomas J. Archer, David Avery, Eli L. Avery, George Avery, *w.*, Nathan P. Avery, *d.*, Samuel C.

Avery, Thomas Avery, *w.*, Porter Avery, Thomas Beaumont, Arthur E. Blockham, *w. d.*, Thomas S. Bowell, Danford Burman, David Burman, *d.*, George H. Burman, Henry I. Bushnell, *w.*, Theo. W. Doyle, Wm. O. Doyle, Peter N. Dunn, Archibald Foster, Erastus R. Foster, Pardon Hill, Elgeroy Hill, Isaac Hine, *d.*, Luther Hine, Judson J. Perrington, Fred. M. Tennant, John H. Tooley, E. D. Tyler, *w.*, John T. Walker, *d.*, Luman Washburn, *d.*, A. B. Williams, Sherman Williams, Albert Wood, *d.* Total number, 35.

AUBURN.—E. L. Adams, John Anderson (a prisoner eight months), Charles Avery, Amos Baker, Henry Baker, Horace Baker, Jos. Barber, Joseph G. Beeman, Stephen C. Beeman, Benjamin H. Boughton, *w. d.*, Levi T. Bray, *w.*, George Brotzman, *w.*, Isaac Brotzman, *d.*, John Bullock, Jr., Lyman Bullock (? emerg.), A. P. Bump, D. L. Bump, *d.*, Lt. Aaron Bunnel, Owen Cadden, Henry N. Capwell, A. B. Carrier, Asa Carlin, N. Canfield, Mulford Carter, U. S. N., Benjamin Carter, Hiram Carter, Levi Chamberlain, George Cool, George Cooley, Charles O. Cole, Edw. S. Cogswell (lost an arm), Aaron Cogswell, *d.*, Hampton Conger, John Conrad, Ithamer Conrad, Henry Corey, *d.*, L. L. Corse, John Cox, Alpheus Crawford (lost an arm), Charles Crawford, *d.*, C. E. Davis, Thomas Davis, Alex. Devitt, McKendry Elliott, John Filan, Ransom W. Ford, John Finney, George France, Geo. S. Frink, Charles Fuller, D. O. Fuller, Calvin S. Gay, *w.*, Tredway K. Gay, *d.*, Lt. James P. Gay, John W. Green, John Groo (?), Capt. John Guile, Aaron Hull, *k.*, John Harris, E. M. Hollenback, *d.*, (Ezekiel Hollenback ?) Wm. Holley, John Wesley Hotel, *d.*, William Hotel, Anson B. Hyde, Austin Hyde, Lt. Urias F. Hollenback, *d.*, E. F. Jacoby, Andrew Jackson, Fred. Jackson, Harry N. Kellogg, *w.*, A. B. Kennedy, Richard V. Kennedy. (lost an arm), Marshall Knowles, *d.*, John W. Knowles, Keeney Lathrop, Horatio U. Loomis, Jared Lillie, Earl Love, George Lyon, Herman Lyon, Wilbur Lyman, Lt. M. L. Lacey, Dana Lafrance, Jason Lemon, Leander Lott, Daniel C. Lowe, Benjamin Lowe, J. C. Lowe, Leander Lowe, George Main, Albert Maricle, *d.*, Patrick Malone, Benjamin Marshall, Charles Marshall, John Mannering, Hamilton McMicken, Nelson McMicken, Wesley McMicken, *k.*, Nelson Ming, Samuel McLain, Danford Newton, Matthias C. Oliver, Paul Overfield, J. B. Overfield, *w.*, Wm. H. Peet, A. L. Picket, Abraham G. Potter, *d.*, J. C. Rifenberry, J. L. Rifenberry, (James ?), Philip Rifenberry, John Ralston, Peter Rowe, Benjamin Seely, Mallery Seely, H. Seely, Joel B. Sherwood, J. Shannon, *d.*, Andrew Shoemaker, *k.*, William Shoemaker, John Show, Denmark Smith, *d.*, Davis C. Smith, Daniel Smith, *d.*, John L. Smith, John Strunk, *d.*, William Strunk, *k.*, Terrence Smith, Julian Stillwell, Paul O. Stillwell, Henry Sumne (Sumner ?) Jackson Swisher, W. B. Simpson, (Rush ?) B. L. Taylor, John G. Taylor, William Taylor, Lt. A. D. Tewksbury. MD., Emmet Tewksbury. Wm. J. Thornton, Joshua Thornton, Lt. H. C. Titman, *k.*, Elias Titman, D. C. Titman, Jacob Titman, Philip Titman, Davis Transue, Moses Treible, Peter Treible, A. S. Vanscoten, George Vanscoten, Marshall H. Vanscoten, *w.*, David Voss, Amos Warner, John Warner, Sidney Warner, Joseph Wilber, Martin Wiles, Warner Wiles, A. V. Williams, John Williams, Ira Winans, Chauncey Wright, Daniel Yonker, H. L. Youngs, *d.*, Wesley L. France, Henry W. Brown. Total number, 167.

BROOKLYN.—Charles G. Adams, *d.*, J. W. Adams, E. P. Bailey, L. M. Baldwin, Asa Benjamin, *d.*, James Benjamin, Lyman Benjamin, Charles Berthwick, Leander Brooks, W. H. Brookins, C. M. Chapman, Wm. Culver, A. T. Dewitt, J. M. Dewitt, A. J. Dickerson, *d.*, G. N. Doolittle, W. H. Doolittle, Harrison Doud, W. H. Eldridge, J. Henry Ellis, H. C. Fairchild (State Guard), Wm. Fish, Edw. P. Gardiner, *d.* (Gibson), Samuel Gard, Lyman E. Giles, *d.*, M. J. Goodrich, Edward Goss, Zachariah Goss, Wm. H. Gray, A. A. Hempstead, John Hempstead, *d.*, Preston T. Hollister, E. A. Kent, *w.*, Richard H. Kent, *k.*, Christian Kerr, P. Frederick Lindsley, G. C. Mack, L.

P. Mack, Chester McKinney, *d.*, A. M. Murray, Wm. H. Nott, Edward Oakley, Joseph Oakley, W. R. Page, Charles Penny, George Rolph, *d.*, Charles Reynolds, *d.*, J. L. Reynolds, J. N. Reynolds, *d.*, Oscar Reynolds, Charles Richards, Joseph Richards, Lemuel Richards, Edwin Rogers, *d.*, John M. Roper, Benjamin Saunders, Perry D. Saunders, *k.*, James Slade, James Smith, Jas. N. Smith, Hiram J. Snyder, Geo. E. Stage, Wallace Stedman, Fred. Stephens, *k.* (Auburn?), Henry Tewksbury, J. W. Tewksbury, Chris. Thayer, Alson Trip, *d.*, John Tiffany, Wm. H. Tripler, Marcus De L. Underwood, Ansel Vergerson, *d.*, N. J. Vergerson (Ferguson?), Courtwright Vanauken (State Guard), John Vanauken, *d.*, Sidney Vanauken, Edgar Williams, *k.*, Benjamin Williams, Daniel Wilcox, *d.*, William White, Adney Whitford, *d.*, Lester Wright, *d.* Total number, 81.

BRIDGEWATER.—H. Allen, Ashmun C. Ayres (N. Milford?), Lt. Bicknell B. Atherton, Samuel Backus, H. S. Baldwin, Joshua A. Bailey, Charles Bookstaver, Wilbur S. Benjamin, Adelbert Corwin, *k.*, Gilbert Corwin, *k.*, David Cool, Oscar B. Darrow, George E. Dutcher, Jonathan M. Eckert, Wallace J. Foster, Charles C. Frink, Jonathan F. Gardner, Sergt. Geo. A. Guernsey, *pris.*, Edward S. Howell, *d.*, F. Holbrook, George W. Hewitt, Joseph Kanaway, (Jessup?), Joseph Jameson, A. B. Galloway, Franklin M. Kent, Henry Lester (Jessup?), Charles McKenzie, *k.*, Chas. H. Stone, Wm. A. Perkins, Charles Perkins, James A. Peasley, Charles E. Sines, *d.*, John H. Sodan, Wentz P. Suedaker, Alfred J. Stephens, Frederick Stark, *d.*, Wm. H. Stark, Henry Sweet, Wm. C. Trumbull, lost an arm, Andrew O. Tyler, Lt. Logan O. Tyler, *k.*, Wm. S. Vanorsdale, Theodore F. Warner, *k.*, Ansel Warner, Byron R. Wade, Jerome Wade, Maj. John W. Young, Eli Eastman. Total number, 48.

Minute men of 1862 and '63: Judson Beach, Augustus Darrow, Lewis Dutcher, Charles Fessenden, Mark Hunter, Cassius Johnson, Edson Mott, James M. Sprout, Chandler Stephens, C. F. Watrous. Total number, 10.

CLIFFORD.—Charles R. Berry, George W. Brownell, John Carpenter, James Coleman, Benton Coleman, Mordecai H. Doud, James C. Decker, Capt. Wm. G. Graham, Frank E. Hull, George Hull, Thad. W. Hunter, John H. Hunter, William J. Lewis, Redmond C. Miller, *d.*, Samuel R. Miller, George Patton, Peter Patton, Zenas Rounds, Eliab Stage, *d.*, Charles M. Truesdail, Julian E. Whitman (?). Total number, 21.

DIMOCK.—Albert J. Ainey (emerg.), Lieut. P. E. Brush (surgeon), E. L. Blakeslee, Orin Blakeslee, J. G. Blakeslee, *d.*, Lewis Blakeslee, Serg. Isaac G. Babcock, Miner Bailey, J. Barber, *d.*, Charles Bolles, J. Bolles, *k.*, Jasper Bolles, *d.* at Andersonville, Wm. Burdick, P. Birch, *w. d.*, W. Bloom, George D. Carney, Henry D. Carney (Bridgewater?), James W. Carrier, Myron Carrier, *d.*, Scott Carrier, *d.*, George Chrisman, J. Cokeley, — Cokeley, P. Daley (Friendsville?), H. H. Dougherty, James Dougherty, *k.*, Mason Fargo, Corp. F. Fargo, M. Hinkley, Wm. Hinkley, *d.*, E. Hawley, D. Hawley, Thomas Hickok, D. Higley, E. L. Gardner, *d.*, Charles Griswold, King Griswold, J. A. Giles, Prentiss A. Gavitt, *d.* in hospital, James Gavitt, Charles Gavitt, *d.* in Southern hospital, Capt. E. B. Gates, *w.*, *leg amp.*, *pris.*, W. E. Gates, N. H. Gates, *pris.* at Andersonville ten months, Harlan W. Gates, Corp. A. P. Gates, E. F. Gates, *k.*, Wm. S. Gates, Serg. Parker J. Gates, *w.* twice, injured for life, Charles S. Gates, *pris.* at Salisbury five months, Wm. H. Gray, *do.*, Lieut. A. Larue, Wm. Lawrence, *w.*, injured for life, *pris.*, Edwin Lathrop, Eugene Lathrop, Z. Lathrop, Albert Miles, R. Miles, Lieut. T. P. Mills, A. Mitchell (Rush?), Henry Mowers, *d.*, Henry Mock, Geo. Newton, *pris.* at Salisbury, Z. O. Newton, Lieut. Wm. Parke, Sol. Parks, *d.*, H. Penny, Capt. S. L. Richards, P. W. Riley, *w.*, Corp. H. Roberts, C. Stephens, *d.*, George W. Smith, *pris.*, Terry Sheen, *d.*, Wm. Smith, A. Stage, *d.*, R. Stage,

d., Tunis Springer, Frank D. Stephens, H. V. Thompson (minute), Mason Tingley, Wm. Underhill, *k.*, Levi Uptagrow, *k.*, Geo. Williams, John Williams, L. H. Woodruff, Jr., John Young, *w. d.* Robert Service (or Zerfass?), Alfred B. Tingley, Riley W. Blakeslee (emergency men). Total number, 89.

DUNDAFF.—Paul Bariger, *w.*, Urbane Bariger (Gibson?), Geo. E. Bennett, H. F. Bennett, Ebenezer Brownell, Charles Coil, James Coil, John Coil, Thomas Coil, George Goodrich, *k.*, Nathaniel Goodrich, George Potter, Joseph Pruner, George Simpson, Jerome Slocum, Lloyd Slocum, *k.*, Merrit Slocum, George Stark, Edgar Weaver, William Witter, *d.* a prisoner, H. C. Yarrington. Total number, 21.

FOREST LAKE.—Frank Angell, Robert Booth, Myron Bradshaw, Isaac Giffin, Daniel Hawse, Henry Jenner, Ezra P. Lester, William Lepper, Calvin L. Lincoln, Joshua P. Miller, Alonzo Mott, John M'Coy, Martin Perigo, E. L. Rhinevault, Fred. Scribner, Wm. A. Southwell, Edward B. Slawson, Wm. B. Southwell, Charles Small, Vanness Small, George B. Strange, James Leman Turrell, M. S. Towne, Asa Warner, Stanley B. Warner, John W. White, Warren T. White, H. R. West, Charles A. West, Charles E. Webster. The foregoing all belonged to Capt. Morris's company. Nineteen others, it is said, went from Forest Lake, and among them Gardner Taylor, Alanson Wright, Miles D. Baldwin, Judson L. Cornell; but no other names have been furnished. Total number, $31+19=50$.

FRANKLIN.—E. L. Beebe, Lyman Beebe, *d.*, Walter L. Beebe, Ferd. Bolles, C. D. Bryant, A. S. Burrows, James Cromwell, *k.*, John Cromwell, *draft.*, Jacob Delamater, *k.*, Ambrose Disbrow, Jesse Disbrow, Charles Gary, Samuel Hill, Stiles Jacobus, Samuel Keeler, Sumner E. Lines, *k.*, Joseph Maryott, *draft.*, E. J. Messenger, Henry N. Pierson, *d.*, Jacob W. Palmer, permanently crippled, Augustus Smith, John Snow, *draft.*, Daniel F. Stillwell, *k.*, S. L. Stillwell, A. E. Stockholm, George Stockholm, J. J. Stockholm, Theodore Todd, *d.*, Benj. J. Vance, William Ward, *k.*, Edward Watson. *Minute Men:* J. M. Fisk, O. H. Summers, Alonzo Todd, Lewis Todd. Stillman Fuller was employed by government as an overseer on a cotton plantation; Mrs. Lydia Fuller went as teacher. Total number, $31+4=35$.

FRIENDSVILLE.—Oscar Caswell, H. Cook, Andrew Ferry, Frank E. Foster, J. W. Glidden, Archie H. Horton, W. W. Horton, C. L. Leet, Dr. N. Y. Leet, surgeon, Silas Light (Middletown?), Orin Emory Lester,¹ Harlan Wesley Lester, Thomas Matthews, Michael Mooney, John Mooney, G. W. Power, Geo. W. Rice, Philip Ryan, Frank P. Ryan, M. Spafford, F. Russel. (In 1862, Friendsville had never had over 45 voters.) Total number, 21.

GIBSON.—G. S. Ames, *d.*, N. C. Austin, Myron Barnes, Wm. Barnes, Rufus Barnes, W. H. H. Bennett, Geo. W. Bennett, *w.*, James Barton, *d.*, Jonathan Barrager, Simeon Barrager, Theodore Barrager, Wm. Barrager, Farris Blanchard, *d.*, Moses Brewer, Adj. Elisha B. Brainerd, Corp. Wm. P. Brainerd, *d.*, Henry Card, Dan. Carpenter, Lieut. T. Leroy Case, Lieut. Albert Capron, Dr. James C. Card, assist. surgeon, *d.*, Lieut. Wm. N. Chamberlin, *w.*, Wm. T. Chandler, B. F. Chamberlin, Nelson D. Coon, S. S. Coon, Martin Conrad, Geo. W. Conrad, Michael Conrad, Wm. S. Conrad, *d.*, Henry Coil, Isaac P. Corey, John M. Corey, James H. Corey, *d.* the day

¹ Ezra P. Lester is claimed also by Friendsville; he is one of five brothers who served in the war and "never received a scratch." Orin was in twenty-seven engagements, was never sick, was always on duty, was at Antietam, and the taking of Richmond.

after reaching home from Andersonville, Sergt. James M. Craft, Nelson Dickey, James Daniels, Wm. Doud, George Denney, *d.*, G. T. Davis, Lieut. James H. Dony, Jason E. Fargo, G. M. Felton, Charles Felton, C. W. Gelatt, *d.*, Albert Griggs, *k.*, James N. Griggs, Edward Gardner, *k.*, J. T. Halstead, James Hobart, Elias S. Harding, John S. Howell, Pardon Hill, Ord. Sergt. Charles M. Holmes, *d.*, James A. Keach, Thomas Kelley, H. J. Kelley, Esek Kelley, Asa Kinne, *d.*, George Lagier, S. A. Lake, Wm. Lee, B. B. Maples, E. B. Maxon, David P. Maynard, Q. M. Sergt. Matthew McPherson, *k.*, Lawrence Manzer, Milton Mapes, C. S. Maxon, *d.* (probably killed), Ebenezer Owens, *d.* at Andersonville, Henry J. Pickering, Wm. Pickering, Henry D. Pickering, John Robinson, F. F. Rogers, Charles Roper, John Resseguie, Geo. T. Rezeare, Serg. Geo. R. Resseguie, *w.*, Charles Rendall, Serg. Augustus J. Roper, *k.*, John L. Riker, Q. M. Sergt. Raymond S. Scott, Urbane Sloat, Olney F. Sweet, J. E. Shepardson, Griffin G. Stark, Byron Steenback, Lewis Steenback (Jackson?), Milo Spencer, *d.* of *w.*, Ebenezer Stanton, G. C. Tanner, Byron Tennant, E. G. Tennant, Charles Taylor, Freeman Taylor, John F. Taylor, Albert Townshend, *d.*, J. O. Tripp, Charles H. Tripp, *w.*, Henry M. Tiffany, *d.*, John I. Travis, *k.*, Darius Walker, Francis M. Walker, James M. Warner, Charles M. Wells, Henry Washburn, Frank Whitmarsh, Wm. H. Whitmarsh, Harlan Whitney, *d.*, Chester W. Whitney, Solomon Williams, A. N. Wood, Albert R. Woodward, Elmer Writer.

Minute Men in 1863, not including some of the above: Elisha Bailey, E. T. Bailey, U. B. Gillett, Henry Ingalls, Jack Low, Victor P. Low, Albert B. Payne, Frank D. Russel. Corp. Gilbert R. Stiles, Geo. B. Tiffany, Lieut. Charles A. Ward, Duane Whitney. Total number, 115+12=127.

GREAT BEND TOWNSHIP (IN 1862).—Newell Ackerman, George Adams, Chauncey Baker, Rensselaer Barber, Alex. Bennett, Edwin A. Bennett, Harlow Blessing, John A. Brown, Josiah Brown, John H. Burley, Benjamin Buchannon, Joseph Crandall, Isaac Crissell, Joseph Crissell, Jourdan Crissell, Wm. H. Crissell, O. T. Conklin, George Clark, Ezekiel Davis, George Davis, Lieut. R. C. Du Bois (reg. army), George E. Ellis, Horton Ellis, Lorenzo Flint, Albert O. Fox, John Gaffney, Uriah Gates, George E. Hall, M. L. Hall, Charles Hawkins, John Holmes, Cyrus Hughs, George Hughs, Lafayette Hughs, George H. Hurlburt, Henry Kenyon, Daniel Losaw, Julius F. Loomis, William Lockwood, Thomas Lummerton, Wm. D. Lusk, Henry Melody, Jr., Legrand Marshall, Luman S. Millius, *d.*, Joseph Morris, A. P. M'Creary, G. M'Creary, James O. Munroe, William Murphy, James S. Osterhout, John Osterhout, Jr., William Pennel, Henry Randall, Henry Ramsdall, Ambrose Ransom, John Searine, Simeon Skinner, Hiram Stoddard, Elisha M. Skinner, George W. St. Clair, Frank Tafe, George Tafe, Melvin Trowbridge, Oscar Trowbridge, Robert Taylor, James C. Taylor, William Vanetten, John Vanway, Jacob Vanauken, Sidney Van Valkinburgh, W. H. Wilmot, Emory Wilber, L. S. Woodward.

From the Borough: Jackson B. Ferris, *k.*, Geo. A. Wilson. [Probably many more.] Total number, 75.

HARFORD.—Alva Adams, Corp. Edwin F. Adams, *d.*, J. Blake Adams, *w.*, Lawris Adams, Dr. Wm. Alexander, surgeon, Wm. Bernard, Merrit Blackington (emergency), Herbert Blanding, Warren Birchell, *d.* of *w.*, Henry D. Brewster, Samuel T. Brewster, *d.*, Josiah Belknap, Charles Bryant, Cyrus Carpenter, Wm. N. Cowley (emergency), Wm. T. Carpenter, Merrit Coffin, Azarias L. Daniels (Lenox?), Jefferson Daniels, Addison Dimock, Russell Darrow, Corp. Asa Decker, Henry Esterbrooks, Du Bois Freer, *d.*, Dr. G. M. Gamble, surgeon, Leonard Gow, Wm. Gow, *d.*, Lee Greenwood, Porter L. Green, *d.*, John Halstead, Corp. Charles S. Halstead, Richard Halstead, Joseph Halstead, James C. Harding, Elijah Harding,

John Hobbs, Edward F. Hawley, *d.* after a year at Andersonville, Henry H. Hamilton, Seymour C. Halstead, Capt. Nelson Hawley, Leslie E. Hawley, George W. Lamb, Roscoe S. Loomis, *d. of w.*, Benjamin Lewis, Nathan Lewis, Streeter Lewis, Linus Moore, Hiram Oakley, Andrew Orsman, George L. Payne, Wm. A. Payne, E. R. M. Percy, George W. Potter, Edgar Price, Wm. H. Patterson, Arthur Price, Chauncey Price, David Price, *d.*, Theron Palmer, Collins Peck, Harvey Rice, *k.*, Lyman E. Richardson, Mason Richardson, Wm. Rogers, Braton L. Seeley, Charles L. Seeley, Wm. T. Spencer, James R. Spencer, Wm. Seamans, Egbert Sinsabaugh, Sergt. Henry M. Stearns, *w.*, Charles A. Stearns, Capt. Abel T. Sweet, Corp. Foster F. Sweet, George M. Sweet, *d. of w.*, Alonzo Tiffany (also, Dr. A. Tiffany), Amos V. Tiffany, Edmund Tiffany, Willis W. Tiffany, Volney W. Tiffany, *k.*, Judson Tiffany, Cyrus A. Tiffany, Edwin Thatcher, Coleman E. Thatcher, Charles Tingley, Duane L. Tyler, Henry Tupper, *k.*, Orlando Watrous, Capt. D. Everett Whitney, Henry Whitney, Dallas Watson, Russell Waterman, Thomas Way, *d.* prisoner, Vester Wilmarth, Wesley S. Wilmarth, Willard W. Wilmarth, Christopher C. Wilmarth, *d. of w.*, Frederick Wilmarth, Lieut. Henry G. Williams, John M. Williams, *d.*, E. S. Jackson. Total number, 102.

HARMONY.—Charles Atwell, Elijah Atwell, *k.*, Lucius C. Atwell, *d.*, Paul Atwell, Edward P. Bagley, Daniel P. Bagley, George Backus, Noah Bisbee, lost a leg, Henry Brandt, *d.*, Harvey Bryant, Lieut. James Buckley, James Cargill, Isaac L. Comfort, John R. Comfort, Thomas V. Cook, Frederick Coss, Marshall A. Coss, Edward Cunningham, *k.*, Ira Finch, John L. Fuller, Charles Gates, (Jackson?) Hobart Haines, Warren Haines, Benjamin Hawley, Nelson R. Henderson, Miner R. Hill, Henry H. Hobart, Alonzo Hoof, Warren Hunt, *k.*, Alexander Ives, Benjamin C. Kidder, John Kipfer, Silas W. Lacey, Wm. C. Lacey, John D. Leary, Henry K. Marks, Charles Mayo, Oren Mayo, *d.*, Nelson P. Mayo, Herman Meyer, *d.*, Nelson McIntosh, Gilbert E. McKune, Thomas Murphy, Edward F. Newell, Thomas J. Nicholson, Capt. Perez L. Norton, Thaddeus Odell, George W. Palmer, Daniel C. Patrick, prisoner at Andersonville, John H. Patrick, Oren Patrick, *k.*, Julius G. Perkins, Lewis L. Perkins, *k.*, George Pettis, George E. Pooler, Ira A. Pooler, *k.*, James L. Pruyn, *k.*, Ichabod S. Read, John J. Remmele, Amasa Resseguie, *d.*, Adelbert B. Robinson, Henry J. Robinson, Leander Robinson, Silas C. Rood, *d.*, August Schweckendick, *d.*, Milton Sellick, Wm. H. Sellick, Aaron L. Shew, Ezra H. Shew, Jeremiah Shriver, Lorenzo D. Spafford, Isaac F. Storer, Ira Tewksbury, *k.*, Elmer Tiel, George B. Ticknor, *k.*, Albert G. Townsend, *d.*, Maj. Frank W. Tremain, *k.*, Calvin Utter, Abram Walker, Charles Walker, *k.*, Ianthus Walker, Edgar Watrous, *d.*, John H. Webb, Oren P. White, *d.*, George W. Whitney, John O. Whitney, Roderick B. Whitney, *d.*, Daniel C. Winters, Marvin O. Writer.

Minute men, not including some of the above: Jerome A. Chase, Nelson R. Comfort, Lieut. H. G. Hotchkiss, Lyman Mayo, Reusselaer McFarland, L. W. Scott, John D. Shutts, James O. Taylor, Bennett Wakeman. Total number, 89+9=98.

HERRICK.—Jackson Bass, *d.*, Erastus Bennett, L. M. Bunnell, Capt. Ira N. Burritt, Lieut.-Col. Loren Burritt, A. B. Burns, S. Carpenter, Z. Carpenter, Alva Cory, Enos Cory, Warren Cory, Augustus Dart, *d.*, Clark Reed Dart, *d.* at Andersonville, L. M. Dart, Norton Dart, A. Dimmick, E. Dimmick, Stephen Ellis, *d.*, J. Gardner, *k.*, L. Kishbaugh, Matthew McPherson, I. Myers, Isaac Rankin, Robert Ridge, C. R. Stewart, Stanley Stewart, H. Wayman, J. J. Williams, J. Wilmarth. Total number, 29.

JACKSON.—Gustavus S. Ames, Leroy Aldrich, Moses B. Aldrich, Luther L. Barrett, Hollis A. Barrett, Geo. W. Barrett, Elias Barrett, Alonzo Barrett, Wallace B. Barrett, Sabin Barrett, Livingston Brooks, *k.*, Albert Bald-

win (New Milford?), B. F. Barnes, Frank Barnes, Stephen Barnes, Charles Belcher, Oscar Belcher, Manzer L. Benson, P. K. Benson, Austin Benson, Geo. W. Brink, Elmer Brown, J. W. Brown, Murray Brown. Zachary Brown, J. M. Bronson, O. Bryant, Newton Bryant, David L. Bryant, Horace Burchell, Urbane Burchell, Lieut. A. D. Corse, Lieut. U. S. Cook, Geo. Cook, James E. Curtis, John Curtis, Wheaton Denney, Burton Dix, George Dix, Adelmer Daughtry, Daniel D. Duren, C. H. Easterbrooks, Dwight Easterbrooks, Elijah Easterbrooks, Eliab F. Eastman, Willard Easterbrooks, Whitmore Easterbrooks, E. A. French, George H. French, Edson M. French, Smith L. French, Sylvester L. French, Myron French, Merritt C. French, Edgar M. Foster, Luman Foster, Victor Foster, Enoch Fox, *d.*, Maynard Gates, Lewis Gates, Theo. Galloway, E. T. Galloway, lost a leg. A. M. Griggs, Daniel L. Gregory, Warren S. Gregory, Jerome Houghton, Elliott Harris, Lucas Hall, Urbane Hall, Ellgeroy Hill, P. Houghtalin, Wm. H. Lake, Charles Lake, Velosco Lake, Daniel Lane, Alfred W. Larrabee, Emery Larrabee, Hartley Larrabee, Benj. H. Larrabee, L. D. Larrabee, Monroe J. Larrabee, Melvin Larrabee, Wesley Larrabee, Windsor Larrabee, Oscar Larrabee, Truman G. Larrabee, Edwin A. Leonard, Velosco Leonard, John Lockard, Jonas Mason, N. M. Martin, Elva Matteson, Orrin Matteson, Daniel Miller, Fred. Miller, Darius Marsh, Silas Marsh, Charles McIntire, Joseph Moore, Seymour McVeigh, Michael J. Mulvey, Wm. H. Norris, Edwin C. Perry, Hermon I. Potter, Victor Potter, Warren Pickering, Amasa N. Rounds, *k.*, Amos Round, James H. Scott, David Smith, Elliott Shepherdson, Charles Slater, Lewis Steenback, Nelson Steenback, Paul Steenback, *d.*, J. Steenback, Alvin Strickland, H. H. Strickland, Joseph Strickland, Fred. Slocum, Curtis Tanner, Bernard Tiffany, Lines W. Tiffany, Henry W. Tyler, Lieut. Amos Tucker, Myron Wheaton, Marble Wells, H. L. West, Benjamin West, Delos Washburn, Velosco Washburn, W. S. Wells (?), H. S. Wells, *d.* in Richmond prison, H. M. Wells, Jr., (?) Patrick Yoliher. Total number, 135.

JESSUP.—Geter Aney, *w.*, prisoner, *d.* at Andersonville, Nicholas Aney, Peter Aney, lost a leg, Amos B. Baldwin, prisoner ten months, Levi S. Blaisdale, *do.*, Sergeant Alanson W. Bissell, *d.*, Albert Birchard, *k.*, Benj. O. Bertholf, Harvey T. Castle, Jacob Cartwright, Wm. Coggsell, *d.*, Chas. Crofut, Patrick Crow, Hiram Cypher, Jerre Cypher, Chas. Darrow, Nelson Davis, *d.*, Cyril Depue, *k.*, John Depue, David L. Dewers, Wm. B. Downer, *d.*, A. J. Drake, Daniel W. Drake, Geo. Drake, John Drummings, (Drummond?), *k.*, Geo. Eckart, *k.*, Zenas Farnham, James Faurot, Francis Fuller (?), Frank Goddard, William Gray (?), Wm. H. Gray, Theodore Gunn, Sylvester Gurney, James Harris, Isaac Hart, Wm. Hart, Wm. Hewitt, James Hillis, *d.* in Libby Prison, Cyrus C. Howe, E. B. Howe, Nathan L. Howe, *k.*, Nelson Kelsey, Samuel Kelsey, Newton Lane, S. F. Lane, Chas. Light, Charles W. Lung, John Labar, *k.*, Elvin Maynard, *k.*, Henry Maynard, John Maloney, Calvin More, Wm. B. Morgan, *d.*, Samuel M'Keeby, Theo. M'Keeby, John M'Straw, Joel Myers, Edward F. Norris, John Norris, Dudley Otis, *d.* of *w.*, Ferdinand Otis, *k.*, Israel Otis, *k.*, Leander Otis (navy), Theo. Otis, David Parmeter, Dennis Parmeter, Christopher C. Peasley, *w.*, Philip S. Quick, *d.* of *w.*, Wm. Ransom (Auburn?), Horace A. Roberts, Jacob Robertson, Mortimer S. Roberts, *w.*, prisoner, *d.*, Peter D. Roe, Wm. S. Rose, *d.*, Allen Shay, Writer A. Shay, Henry Shelp, *w.*, John Shelp, *k.*, Jonas Smith, *k.*, Charles Sherman, Perry C. Sherman, *k.*, Stanley Stone, Chas. H. Stone, Hampden Carlisle Stevens, *d.*, George Struble, David H. Tarbox, Robert Tarbox, Samuel Tarbox, Wm. W. Tarbox, Robert Teal, J. Webster Throckmorton, Francis Tuck, Thomas Vanhouton, Charles A. Vanness, *d.*, Lather L. Very, Ackley Walker, Rinaldo Walker, *d.*, Dennis Warner, Geo. Warner, Jacob Warner, Julius Warner, *d.*, Wallace W. Warner, Henry White, *d.*, Edwin Whittaker, Henry Williams.

Minute men, September, 1862: James Young, Israel W. Barber. Total number, 106 + 2 = 108.

LATHROP.—George E. Bronson, P. S. Bronson, Francis Hawley, Samuel Lindsey, Asahel Lord, Elisha N. Lord, Enoch Lord, Franklin Lord, John Lord, Jonathan Merrill, Jedediah Safford (Brooklyn?), George D. Silvius (emerg.), Balser Steel, Jonathan Squiers, W. P. Tewksbury, Perington Tower, Daniel Vanauken. Total number, 17.

LENOX.—Amos H. Adams, Malonthon (?) Adams, Silas A. Adams, John C. Allen, Orin Baker, Otis Bailey, Marvin Barber, Alonzo E. Bell, Jasper Bell, Wm. J. Bell, Sterling Belcher, Augustine Bonerman, *d.*, David Bonner, Philander J. Bonner, Henry H. Brown, John Cameron, Jr., Thos. Cameron, Charles Card, George Carr, Corp. Winfield Scott Carr, Carvosso Churchill, *w.*, Jackson Clark, Martin Clark, Rufus D. Clarke, Jno. S. Clarkson, Anthony Clarkson, William Clarkson, William Cole, J. B. Colvin, Wm. F. Coney, C. W. Conrad, Jas. M. Conrad, *w.*, Henry Conrad, Oscar Conrad, *k.*, Rufus Conrad, Jerold F. Conrad, *d.*, Martin Conrad, *d.*, John Conrad, Jr., *w.*, Azariah Daniels (?), James Daniels, Jefferson Daniels, Eldridge Davis, Asa Decker, George Decker, *d.*, Elias C. Decker, Manny Dunn, James Farnam, Everett H. Felton, *d.*, Burril Fisk, Henry Fisk, Albert Follet, Theo. Fuller, *w.*, Andrew Furgerson, Barney Gardner, William Gardner, James Gleason, Stephen Gleason, Martin J. Goldin, William Green, *d.*, Andrew Hallstead, Elisha Hallstead, 2d, David Hardy, Ira Hardy, *w.*, S. M. Harding, James P. Hartley, Henry Hedsall, Norman Hines, A. D. Hinkley, Peter Hinkley, *d.*, Elias Hinkley, Jesse Howard, John Howard, *d.*, Geo. W. Howell, Jr., Nelson Jenkins, George Jerrold, Sylvester Knapp, Peter Lott, Chas. Manzer, *d.*, Henry Manzer, Horatio Manzer, George W. Mapes, Jones M'Connel, Allen W. M'Donald, Byron M'Donald, *w.*, Frederick H. M'Donald, Myron M'Donald, *w.*, D. K. M'Namarra, Cyrus D. Millard, Freeman Millard, Humphrey J. Millard, Joseph V. Millard, Stephen S. Millard, Adolph Miller, Douglass S. Miller, Lorin Miller, Martin L. Miller, Lieutenant Wm. Miller, Geo. W. Moore, George W. Moore, 2d, H. N. Mott, Isaac N. Morris, Thos. O'Donald, Alonzo A. Payne, Charles M. Payne, Theron Palmer, Francis W. Payne, George Payne, Ichabod Payne, *d.*, Charles Pease, Noah Phillips, Phineas Phillips, Russel Phillips, *k.*, Frank Pickering, *w.*, John D. Pickering, Joseph Plummer, Marvin Potter, *k.*, Allison Price, Chauncey Price, David Price, William Price, Harlow Quick, Alonzo A. Ransom, Orville Ransom, *d.*, John Reese, Francis M. Robinson, Daniel Rought, Rufus Rought, Cornelius Ryneanson, Israel Ryneanson, John Ryneanson, James C. Smyth, John A. Smyth, William Smyth, Parmenus Smith, 2d., Egbert Sinsinbaugh, Carmon Sprague, Norman Sprague, Chas. W. Snyder, *k.*, Horace Snyder, Sylvester Snyder, *k.*, Addison Stephens, *d.*, Lafayette Stephens, Collins M. Sterling, D. E. Sterling, Jabez Sterling, Cyrus Tanner, Mordecai Tanner, Riley Tanner, Jas. Taylor, John Taylor, Asa Thomas, *d.*, Wm. Thorn, Alson Tiffany, Orin Tiffany, *k.*, Eugene Titus, Henry Titus, Myron J. Titus, Warner Tower, Henry Tupper, *k.*, Edward Van Loan, Erastus Warner, John Watters, Jerry Westcott, Samuel E. West, Wm. F. West, Truman Whipple, Orange Whitney, *d.* prisoner, Willard M. Whitney, John W. White, Henry Whiting, David Young, Wm. Young. Total number, 172.

LIBERTY.—Oliver H. Allard, J. Allen, Abram Allen, *k.*, Levi Banker, John Bartle, Jason Biven, Henry L. Brooks, *d.*, Joseph, Bailey and Peleg Butts sent subs., George Champlin, George Chapman, Captain G. W. Crandall, Charles Crandall, Jas. Cromwell (sub.), Bela J. Crusier, J. H. Darrow, Jonathan C. Darrow, *k.*, Lewis Darrow (died going into battle), Ambrose Disbrow, Virgil P. Gunsalus, Elijah Harris, *d.*, Raynsford Hathaway, Samuel Hathaway, James Hendrickson, Samuel Hill, sub., James Hinchman, John Hinchman, John Holmes, Alvah H. Howard, nine months, Augustus Howard, Jonathan Ingraham, Chas. Kenyon, Gerald Kenyon, Henry Kenyon, Job Knapp, Silas Knapp, Baronet J. Lasure, Zina A. Lindsey,

Joseph Lovelace, Israel C. Luce, Russel Luce, Charles C. Markham, Rufus A. Markham, William O. Markham, D. C. Marvin, Enos M'Leod, John M'Leod, Joel Freeman Morse, George Preston, Ira Preston, Ira Robbins, *k.*, sub., Frank Runkle, Charles H. Sackett, Edwin Sackett, Benjamin Sisson, Almon L. Southworth, H. M. Southworth (min.), James W. Southworth (emerg.), Turner J. Southworth, *d.*, Wallace E. Southworth, Daniel D. Spinnings, *w.*, Theodore Spinnings, John Smith, Theron L. Smith, Eugene L. Stanford, Pliny R. Stockwell, Porter Stockwell, Charles Stockwell, *d.*, Chas. Tarbox, *w.*, David Tarbox, *w.*, George Tarbox, Samuel H. Tarbox, Captain Harrison Truesdell, Rollin B. Truesdell (Great Bend?), Samuel Truesdell, Joel Truesdell, John W. Truesdell, Lorenzo Vance, lost an arm, Benj. Warner, Alexander Webster, Ira Webster, John B. Webster, Fred. Wilbur, Charles Woodward, *w.* Total number, 84.

LITTLE MEADOWS.—Edw. Baynard, Darius Cortright, Richard Cortright, *k.*, David H. Deuel, Asa D. Fessenden, Patrick Finn, James B. Fessenden, James C. Fox, John M. Gifford, *w.*, Daniel Holland, Daniel Holland, Jr., William Holland, Charles L. Kimball, Augustus Lemtzen, *k.*, Frederick Martin, *d.*, James Morrison, James O'Doud, Thos. O'Doud, James O'Shaughnessy, Jeremiah Ragan, Richard Ring, Nelson Stone, Franklin E. Smith, Patrick Smullen, Edmond Williams, John E. Williams, Rodney Williams.

(Little Meadows had never polled over 42 votes.) Total number, 27.

MIDDLETOWN.—Orange A. Baldwin, Henry C. Barnum, *d.*, Newel Barnum, Amos C. Beebe, D. Porter Beebe, Lorenzo D. Birch, *d.*, Daniel Baxter, Silas Baxter, Samuel S. Baxter, John Birkbeck, *d.*, Robert Birkbeck, *d.*, David Brink, Charles Camp, David Canfield, John Conboy, Peter Degnan, Michael Fitzgerald, James E. Fitzgerald, Michael Hickey, Augustus P. Hoadley, Melvin Holman, Jackson Huff (never heard from), Theron H. Jones, *d.*, Lieutenant Michael Keenan, *d.*, Horace M. Keeler, Dennis Lane, *w.*, Edward Malay, Wm. M. Kivitt, Patrick Millmore, *d.* (?), Captain J. C. Morris, Patrick O'Brien, Henry C. Porter, *d.*, Wm. Porter, *d.*, Leonard B. Ross, George Sheldon, N. Y. Sherwood, Abijah Spafford, Milton Spafford, *d.*, Daniel Smith, George Smith, James Smith. Total number, 41.

MONTROSE.—Thomas D. Allen, *k.*, Peter H. Allen, Ed. F. Baldwin, Geo. W. Baker (?), Henry Burgess, J. I. Chapman, Isaiah H. Cross, Capt. G. Z. Dimock, Wm. H. Dennis, Horace A. Deans, Hiram Dolloway, Wallace W. Doolittle, Abraham Fordham, *d.* at Andersonville, Wm. H. Fordham, Lt. Thomas F. Foster, F. F. Goodwin, Henry Grant, Henry S. Hart, James Hackett, H. H. Hinds, William Ira, L. Byron Isbell, marine (lost his hearing), Chaplain Samuel Jessup, O. A. Lines, H. C. Lines, S. E. Leonard, *d.*, Capt. J. R. Lyons, *w.*, Lieut. B. R. Lyons, 2d, *d.* of *w.*, Serg. Luke L. Lyons, *d.* of *w.*, Adj. Clark M. Lyons, *d.* of *w.*, Wm. W. Langdon, *d.*, Merritt Lillie, F. J. Lathrop, Wm. Magee, Isaac Melhuish, Rufus Messenger, Seth Millius, Eben Mooney, Lt. Hugh Mitchell, Stanley N. Mitchell, Chauncey W. Mott, Michael McKune, Sergt. Wm. Perigo, David Pierson, Isaac J. Post, C. B. Potter, Charles D. Rogers, E. W. Rosencrance, Sam'l S. Rosengrants (?), Fred. E. Shipman, J. B. Simmons, Wm. H. Street, John Smith, Thomas Smith, Geo. Stare, Capt. George L. Stone, Lt.-Col. C. W. Tyler, Edson S. Warner, Lt.-C. A. Warner, Lt. F. R. Warner, Lt.-Col. Edward R. Warner (reg. army), Addison Watrous, Charles H. Webb, Joshua Wickson, *k.*, Geo. W. Woodruff, Selden T. Woodruff, Lt. Wm. H. Frink, Hugh McReady—68.

Colored Volunteers.—Charles Allen, George Baker, John Briscoe, Emanuel Dade, Stephen Ennis, Wm. Gilmore, Lawson L. Goins, Peter Green, John W. Green, John Harris, Isaac Hopkins, Henry Johnson, Samuel Johnson, Wm. Johnson, Benjamin Naylor, David Nelson, Daniel Nelson, Josiah Nel-

son, Henry Parker, George Price, James Smith, Charles Smith, John Thompson, Josiah Wilson, Hamilton Youngs, Isaac Youngs.

Of Militia, Minute or Emergency Men of 1862 and 1863: Capt. R. Van Valkenberg, Capt. Wm. H. Jessup (afterwards major and general), Capt. C. C. Halsey, Lt. L. F. Fitch, Wm. E. Post, afterwards captain, Lt. Ed. L. Weeks, Sergeants A. H. Smith, S. G. Pache, H. C. Foster, and D. D. Sayre; J. L. Atherton, B. S. Bentley, Jr., Geo. F. Bentley, Fred. O. Bullard, F. H. Bunnell, Wm. H. Boyd, F. B. Chandler, B. L. Chandler, C. M. Crandall, Wm. L. Cox, C. C. Day, H. H. Dunmore, L. E. Doolittle, D. C. Fordham, G. H. Fordham, A. W. Faurot, E. R. Fargo, A. J. Gerritson, Isaac Harris, Wm. A. House, Calvin L. Howard, G. A. Jessup, H. F. Keeler, Lewis Langdon, Geo. H. Leal, Geo. P. Little, Theo. F. Mack, J. B. McCollum, B. H. Mulford, David Mahoney, H. C. Meeker, W. L. Pierce, Norman I. Post, J. W. Parker, Alvah H. Quick, E. J. Rogers, M. H. Robinson, W. T. Reed, P. Reynolds, B. C. Sayre, D. D. Searle, Wm. B. Simpson, E. R. Smith, C. H. Smith, Irving Scott, Chris. Sherman, Leroy Thayer, W. E. Thayer, H. C. Tyler, Charles E. Uptegrove, C. A. Warren, G. B. R. Wade, Z. Wheelock, Joseph H. Williams, Wm. Wallace Warner, Chas. J. Whipple, Lt. Henry F. Atherton, Wm. H. Stebbins. Total number, 66+26+66+2=160.

NEW MILFORD.—John Adams, Alonzo J. Albright, Dexter Albright, W. Ferris Aldrich, John Austin, Henry W. Avery, Albert J. Baldwin, Jeremiah Baldwin, Israel Banker, Capt. H. F. Beardsley, Stephen Beebe, John W. Belcher, Samuel R. Bell, Wm. B. Bowen, Edmund M. Brush, S. T. Bruyn, Daniel Buel, Nathan Buel, Frank Burchell, Warren Burchell, k., Abel A. Carter, Wm. Caswell, Hiram Chrispell, E. E. Corwin, Johnson A. Cornwell, Samuel Cole, Wm. Cornwell, John Corey, Isaac Corey, Hosea Crisistle, Frank Cummings, John C. Dana, Jonathan M. Darrow, *pris.*, John L. Dennis, d., Nelson Decker, L. S. Everett, Uriah Gates, John H. Green, Theodore Gunn, Richmond Hall, Geo. Hall, John H. Harris, Elbert Hartt, Lt. S. S. Hager, Joseph S. Hallsted, Edward Hibbard, Cyrenus W. Hughes, Lafayette Hughes, Robert Jacobs, George Jackson, Martin Leonard (?), Delavan Leroy, L. L. Leroy, Francillo Lewis, d., Edmund Manzer, d., Calvin McRoy, Wm. McRoy, M. McDonald, James McRoy, Samuel H. McCarroll, James B. McKeeby, Frazier McMillan, Daniel T. Miller, Harvey W. Miller, Price F. Miller, Edward Morse, DeWolf Mott, Levi Moss, d., Mortimer Moffits, Davis D. Moxley, J. Benson Northrup, James Oakley, Wm. Penny, Wm. Parrish, E. A. Pendar, John Parmeter, David Parks, d., C. Stanley Page, Calvin I. Page, Philip Peckins, k., James Robinson, Warren E. Robinson, Wm. G. Seamans, Dennis Shay, B. Sherwood, Timothy C. Simpson, Stephen W. Sloat, John H. Smith, Silas A. Smith, Silas W. Squires, Jerome J. Stanton, *pris.*, Edward L. Sutton, d., William Sutton, Henry H. Stoddard, Horace S. Stoddard, Russell Storrs, Thomas J. Tallman, Dallas P. Tennant, k., Lewis W. Tennant, Orange W. Tennant, John V. Tennant, Walter Tennant, w., D. R. Tooker, Daniel D. Tompkins, Calvin Towner, Daniel Towner, Henry Towner, William Towner, Josiah Vandermark, Silas Vandermark, Alonzo Washburn, Ebenezer Washburn, Michael Washburn, Adin S. Wellman, Theron Wellman, Charles W. Wheat, Gilbert Whitbeck, George Wilson, Edson Williams, Dwight Williams, d., Warren Williams, d., Freeman P. Whitney, *pris.*, Harlan S. Whitney, d. Total number, 123.

RUSH.—Henry Avist, Alonzo Bramlee, Wm. Bramlee (Bromley?), J. M. Bunnell, Wm. Bunt, Charles A. Carter, Charles R. Carter, Oliver Carter, Reuben Carter, Henry Champion, Lyman Canfield, k., Ira Collar, John Canfield, Harvey Coleman, Z. L. Cooley, Theodore S. Clink, James Clink, Adam Clink, Dennis Clapp, Ammi Devine, Daniel Devine, w., Hiram Devine, John W. Devine, w., Ezra Dewers, Corp. Henry W. Drake, w., Curtis R. Dun-

more, Porter Dunmore, Andrew Estes, *d. pris.*, Joseph Estes, Miles B. Estes, *d. of w.*, Newton Estes, Wm. A. Farnham, Zenas N. Farnham, *d. (?)*, Charles Fargo, Pearl Fassett, John Fowler, H. W. Gary, James Gary, Nathan Goodsell, E. Granger, Rev. H. H. Gray, Bela Griffin, Luther Granger, *k.*, John W. Granger, Asa Hickok, Thomas Hickok, Frederick Hinds, William Hinds, *k.*, Geo. Hughes, Thomas Hughes, Daniel Huntsman, Henry P. Johnson, Mortimer T. Keeney, Frederick M. Keeney, J. S. Kunkle, *d. p.*, J. W. Kunkle, *w.*, George Kunkle, *d.*, Bernard Kirkhuff, Kennard Lewis, *k.*, Ezra Dennis Lindsay, — Logan, Llewellyn Lewis, Hanford Lewis, Anson Lathrop, *d.*, Addison Lung, Wm. Marshall, Chas. McCormack, *k.*, John McCormack, *w.*, John McCauley, Daniel McGee, Theodore McGee, Stephen S. Millard, Alba Mitchell, Captain David Mitchell, Geo. W. Mitchell, Andrew Moore, *k.*, James Nichols, Orlo Palmer, Jordan Palmer, Edward S. Perigo, Mark B. Perigo, A. Judson Perigo, Charles Potter, Henry W. Potter, *d.*, David Patterson, Seth Shove, *k.*, Lyman M. Sherwood (marine), Robert S. Shoemaker, J. F. Shoemaker (marine), Samuel Smith, O. S. Swan, Edwin H. Sloat, Alden Swackhammer, Joseph C. Shaddock, Walter B. Simpson, *w.*, Wilson Terry, *w.*, Warren Turner, Wm. Virgil, Wilber H. Wilcox, John West, Benjamin York. Total number, 102.

SILVER LAKE.—Adj. John Brackney (Minute), John Cloon, reg. army, lost a leg, Patrick Colter, *d.*, Thomas Donley, Corp. Jeremiah Donovan, A. Dutcher, Thomas English, Andrew Foot, *k.*, Isaac Gage, John Gage, David Gage, John Gary, *d.*, Samuel Gary, James Hayes, *w.*, Jeremiah Hayes, *w. pris.*, — Hawley, Geo. C. Hill, Michael G. Hill, Oliver B. Hill, *k.*, Alson Howard, *d. pris.*, Enos Howard, *d.*, John Kernan, Percy King, *pris.*, Charles Lawson, *w. pris.*, Michael Laughlin, James Londragon, Daniel Mahoney (Minute), Nelson Meeker, Norman Meeker, Thomas McMan, Hebron Miller, Thomas Moses, William Moses, Francis O'Day, Ord. Sergt. George Pheros, Lafayette Pheros, Thomas Purtle, Maurice Reidy, Asabel L. Roberts, John Ryne, Fred. W. Slade, *w.*, James Slade, Alpheus M. Snow, *w.*, Clinton Snow, drafted, Abel Snow, drafted, Lorenzo W. Sullivan, — Thompson, Nathaniel Wakeley, Floyd Washburn, James Whalen, *k.*, James Wilber, Stephen Wood. Total number, 52.

SPRINGVILLE.—From the Company-rolls of Captains Van Valkenberg and Halsey, we gather the following lists of minute men of 1862, and emergency men of 1863, from Springville: Albert B. Alger, Jerome Avery, C. W. Bard, Benj. Blakeslee, D. Button, Durand Chamberlin, Horace J. Conrad, L. R. Dunham, Edgar C. Ely, J. B. Fletcher, Adam Hanyon, Marsh Hunter, Chauncey L. Knapp, Horatio N. Loomis, N. P. Loomis, Edward C. Lott, J. H. Lyman, Thos. W. Lyman, Wilber Lyman, L. F. Meacham, S. T. Parker, Lyman Phillips, Jonas Phillips, Nelson W. Sheldon, William Smales, Justus Smith, Llewellyn Taylor, F. W. Tiffany, Seth Tyrell, W. H. Vought, Fred. D. Warner, D. T. Welch, Miner K. Williams, Sidney Warner, Gardner Taylor. Total number, 35.

In the 57th Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, is the name of Bentley Stark, of Niven.

We have been told that five of the name of Hungerford enlisted in some regiment or regiments from the township; thus it is evident the list is very incomplete.

Daniel McCracken enlisted April 16, 1861—the first man who went from Susquehanna County. He was a prisoner five months at Richmond and Salisbury. From the latter place he made his escape, with others, by digging a passage seven feet below the surface—a labor of three months—after which he was one month in reaching the Union lines. Benjamin N. Spencer and three sons—two of whom died—went from Springville, also — Hendrick, Joseph Mackey, John R. Hungerford, lieutenant of colored regiment.

Clark Hungerford, sergeant, and three other brothers, are said to have served "without receiving a scratch." Wm. H. Culver.

SUSQUEHANNA DEPOT.—Edward H. Bryant, D. R. Day, Richard Finnigan, John C. Foot, W. C. Frith, Edward Gilbert, Thomas Hasset, Michael Holteran, Henry A. Shaw, James M. Weller, George Williams. Total number, 11.

THOMSON.—Albert Austin, Andrew Babcock, Daniel Bagley, John Bagley, Edwin Banks, Murray Brown, Delos Bryant, Julius H. Burr, Frank Cook, George Cook, Bowman Gallaway, Sizer Gelatt, Wm. Greek, Frank Hall, Harrison Hall, George Hulce, Stephen Jenkins, Sidney Lewis, Alamanzer Mudge, Wm. N. Nash, L. S. Rogers, G. W. Sampson, M. T. Whitney, R. V. Whitney. Total number, 24.

TOWNSHIP NOT KNOWN.—Abram V. Alden, James H. Bagley, Joseph A. Beebe, *d.*, Wm. E. Bartlet, Henry V. Bogart, Levi L. Brink, Melvin J. Buck, Peter Brown, Alanson Cole, Wm. J. Crandall, Thomson Crofut, F. G. Cummings, Orimel S. Davison, Jerome Davison, John W. Dolloway, Theodore Devine, Luther Eldred, Freeman J. Ellsworth, Charles T. Fish, Patrick Gallaher, Asa Green, David L. Goss, D. M. Galloway, Sidney N. Galloway, Dutcher Hyna, Oliver J. Howard, Wm. C. Hinckley, John S. Jacobus, Joseph McShearer, Chris. C. Nicholas, Elvin Newkirk, Orin A. Oakley, Wm. E. Osman, Wm. D. Osborn, Orlando Parks, Phineas H. Pierson, David W. Phillips, John W. Reynolds, Terrence Riley, Daniel H. Stephens, *d.*, Chas. B. Salisbury, David T. Salisbury, Jesse M. Stevens, *pris.*, Geo. Taylor, Simon Vanhorn, Marshall White, *d.* in *pris.*, Geo. A. Wilson, Fred. D. Young, Lemuel Titman. Total number, 49.

A fund of \$630 has been collected towards a soldiers' monument.

The following companies were recruited wholly or principally in Susquehanna County. Doubtless there were parts of many others.

1. A company of three months' men, under command of Captain Charles A. Warner, left Montrose, April 22, 1861; but at Harrisburg found that they must enlist for three years, if at all. Being unprepared for this, the company returned at once.
2. Company K, 35th Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, recruited at Susquehanna Depot; Captain J. Shull, mustered in for three years, April 23, 1861.
3. Company H, 33d Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, Captain Elisha B. Gates, mustered in June 20, 1861; out, June 17, 1864.
4. Company D, 50th Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, Captain G. Z. Dimock, mustered in September 6, 1861; out, July 30, 1865.
5. Company A, 57th Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, Captains P. Sides, J. R. Lyons, mustered in December 4, 1861; out, June 29, 1865.
6. Company K, 56th Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, Captains E. S. Warner, I. N. Burritt, mustered in March 3, 1862; out, July 1, 1865.
7. Company F, 141st Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, Captain H. F. Beardsley, mustered in August 26, 1862; out, May 28, 1865.
8. Company H, 141st Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, Captain Caspar W. Tyler, mustered in August 27, 1862; out, May 28, 1865.
9. Company B, 143d Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, Captains J. H. Sornberger, William G. Graham, mustered in August 26, 1862; out, June 12, 1865.
10. Company H, 143d Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, Captain John C. Morris, mustered in September 18, 1862; out, June 12, 1865.
11. Company B, 162d 17th Pennsylvania Cavalry, Captain David E. Whitney, mustered in October 20, 1862; out, June 16, 1865.

12. A part of 162d, 18th Pennsylvania Cavalry, was recruited from this county the same fall.
13. Company A, 151st Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, Captain Geo. L. Stone, mustered in November 8, 1862; out, after 9 months.
14. Company C, 151st Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, Captain John W. Young, mustered in November 8, 1862; out, after 9 months.
15. Company B, 177th Drafted Militia, Captain Arthur M. Phillips, mustered in November 8, 1862; out, after 9 months.
16. Company E, 177th Drafted Militia, Captain Lewis M. Bunnell, mustered in November 8, 1862; out, after 9 months.
17. A great part of a company in the 203d Regiment was composed of Auburn men.

Many men near the State line joined New York Regiments.

State Militia, Minute, or Emergency Men.

18. State defence, 1862, Captain R. Van Valkenburg. In service 9 days.
19. State defence, 1863, Captains William H. Jessup, William E. Post, Co. B, 28th Pennsylvania Volunteer Militia. In service about 6 weeks.
20. Company D, 35th Pennsylvania Volunteer Militia, Captain Calvin C. Halsey. In service about 35 days.

Whole number of soldiers about 2100. Without the emergency men the number is about 2000.

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[A complete index of even such topics as appear here, has not been attempted, instances of many of them being too numerous; but the main points have reference. Family names are omitted where easily identified with townships. Sketches accompanying portraits can be found by referring to the list of illustrations.]

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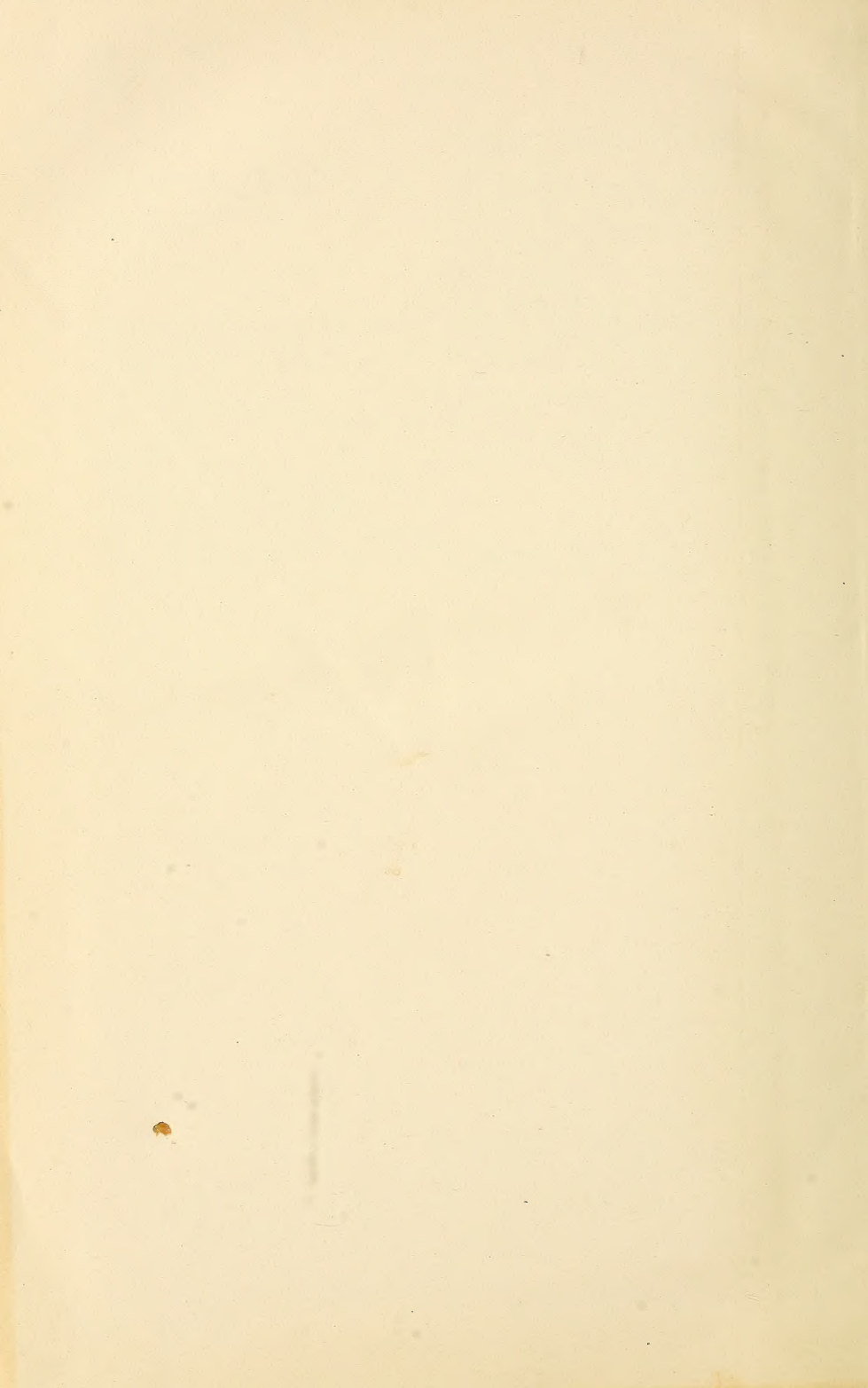
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